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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE want of any one great and exclusive question, and the pressure of several interesting ones of pretty equal importance, induces us again to run over what may be fairly called the topics of the day. Already, the session has reached that stage when a disposition to "lump" things together is visible, and when the weather begins to make itself felt as an influence in politics. Politics Proper in this country are usually understood to mean personal politics, the constitution of cabinets, and all that appertains thereto. Since the great Indian fight, such topics have fallen into abeyance again. The public has lost its relish for them, and generally shows a disposition to postpone an interest in persons, to an interest in things. Perhaps the men most talked about just now (wherever the interest survives) are the Peelites; and it really is an important question what they mean to do. The reader cannot have failed to remark, that, considering the smallness of their following, these gentlemen attract a great deal of attention, and exercise a great deal of influence. Now, there are several reasons always forthcoming in explanation of this. But the one which in our eyes is the most important is, that they are really and practically in the position which other people are in only speculatively. They are neither Liberal nor Conservative, and they vote accordingly; whereas, half the Whigs are Conservative enough at heart for Lord Derby, and half the Conservatives are Liberal enough at heart for anything short of downright democracy. Such a party, however small, is strong by dint of the reality of its position. It knows what it is at,

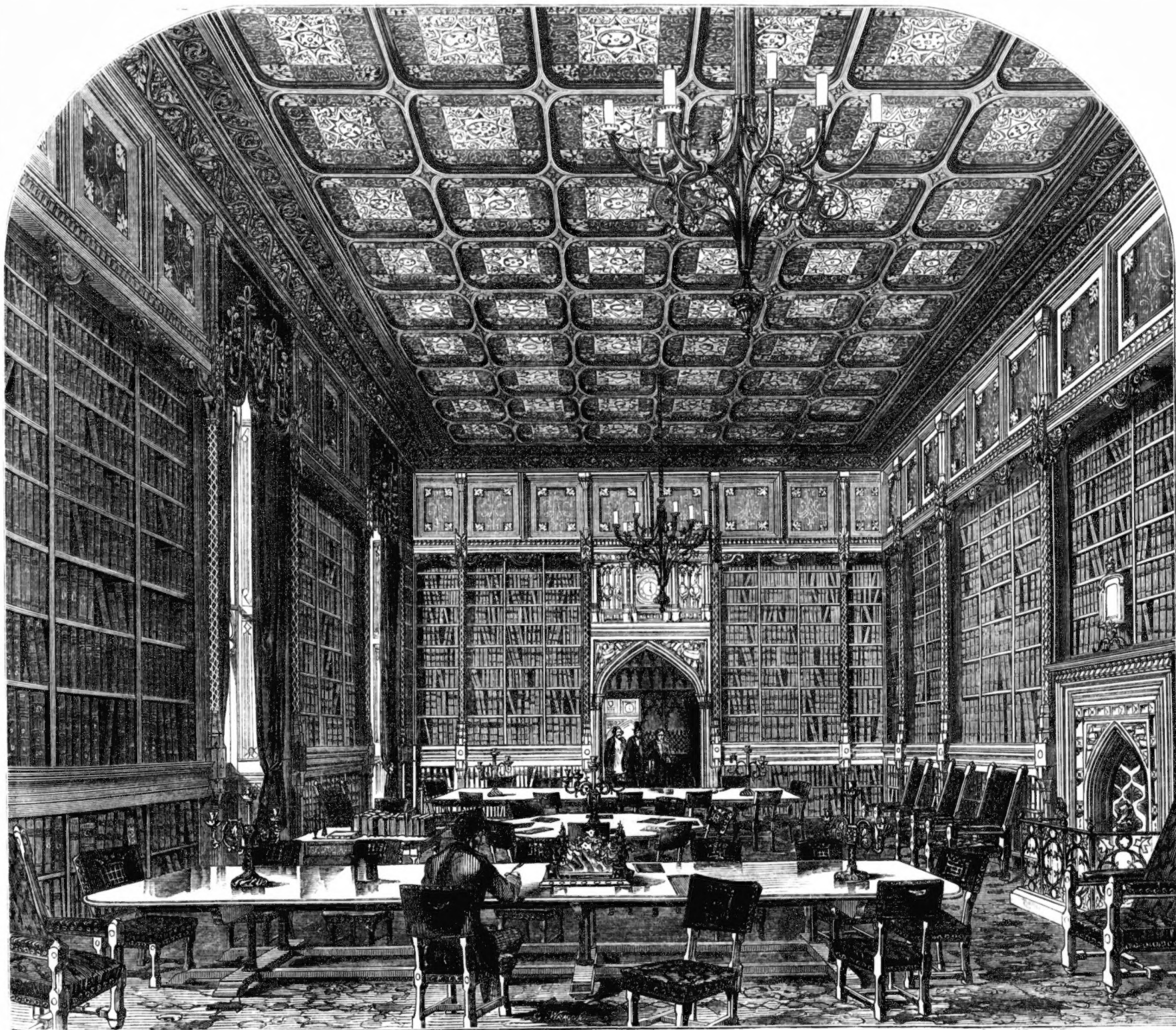
while other organisations hang loosely together. But this disintegration of party is gone so far that a re-action is slowly being felt, one effect of which will be to make the Peelites merge into larger bodies.

This will be a work of time, because the said re-action will necessarily be slow. What the Whigs want, now, is to goad the present Government into declaring itself opposed to *all change*, that so they may again assume their ascendancy over the whole Liberal party, and rule them with a rod of iron. In such case, they know that the Peelites must either join them decidedly, or drop into an obstructive kind of Old Toryism, and lose their hold on the House and country. But we trust that they will have more sense than to adopt either course; for there is no need of being reduced to such a dilemma. Lord Derby's government is not necessarily an obstructive one, nor if it were, would that prove it to be worse than a Whig one. Every democratic measure of the last ten years has been opposed by the Whigs, all whose traditions are as aristocratic as those of the opposite party. Why, then, should the Radicals care for them? Whereas, on the other hand, if moderation be (as we believe it) the present temper of the public in such matters, if the public really be not eager for great political change, the way to test a ministry is by its administrative and social conduct. On these points, we have nothing to regret in the late Ministry. They got through the sessions somehow, and that was all. They did not reduce taxation, nor reform abuses, nor administer the patronage

fairly. They did not practically serve the Liberal cause abroad, but handed over the poor engineers of the *Cagliari* to their successors, non-avenged and non-recompensed.

Such being the state of things, we suspect that the Peelites—failing to join Lord Derby—will remain in their old powerful neutral position. And perhaps it is as well that there should be some good fighting men: to "keep the ring," and see fair play. This was the position of the Peelite chiefs, as of Mr. Bright, in the late struggle; and it is one which somebody must hold during that transition period, which, after clearing the House of the old clique government, will be succeeded, we trust, by a new system, more open, generous, and national in its character. Let the "Independent Liberals" remember that they are just now the trustees acting for the minors of the new generation, and that these will never come into their political rights, unless the Whig aristocratic clique be thoroughly broken up or allowed to die (as it is now dying) of unhonoured old age.

But there is little prospect of political change at present; time is quietly doing his work; and many questions invite comment and remark. That the supplies should be going through is a fact naturally reminding us of the late bad state of the working-classes. Some amendment is going on in trade; and there is a slight decrease of London pauperism, though that of the whole country is painfully greater, if we compare the two last years. The prospect of a good year in every sort of produce makes things look more hopeful. But still, here is our weak



THE LIBRARY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.



point, here is our difficulty; and we get very intolerant of factious disputes and foreign squabbles, when we remember their effect on social reform and taxation. At present there are a couple of foreign questions, the management of which demands tact, quiet, and firmness—a sensible, as distinct from a "spirited," foreign policy.

The first springs out of the French preparations at Cherbourg and Toulon, viewed in association with the present bad tone prevalent (as witness the late duel) in the French army.

The worst possible tactic in this case would be for a minister to deliver an angry after-dinner speech about it. The best is to say little, to make that little perfectly civil and commonplace, and to prepare a fleet quietly and rapidly. We must have a fleet in any case, and, with one, we are perfectly secure. Napoleon has as much right as we have to review his navy, and his doing so cannot be made a grievance. No doubt we shall see attempts made to create a warlike feeling in England this summer; they have begun already. We shall have vehement "leaders," ending with—"Moral. Bring back Pam!" Now, a fire-brigade man is a fine, daring fellow, but it is not worth while to set the house on fire that he may have a chance of showing off.

The second foreign topic calling for remark arises out of that fertile source of embarrassments and crimes—the slave trade.

Recent mails show that the Americans resist our searching their cruisers; and the French plan of importing "free" blacks may probably bring us into disagreeable relations with their government.

There is danger in both these positions. In the first place, the pro-slavery party has the unquestionable ascendant in the politics of America. It would be a long story to tell why, but such is the present fact. And the American people—anti-slavery and all—is far too sensitive to allow us to meddle with their flag, be the motive as good it may. On the other hand, the French system is practically (as Lord Brougham showed the other day) the slave trade in a new form. The French engage "free" blacks to go over and work in the West Indies. But where do they come from? Why, from the same source that avowed slaves do—the wars, the captures, and the sales of the native inhabitants of Africa.

Facts like these open up the whole question again, and the British public will have to decide what its duties to the negroes really are, and how far it is bound to go for them. For instance, is this country bound to go to war to enforce its rights to search American slavers on the coast of Cuba? Is it bound to go to war to restrain Napoleon from importing blacks into Guadeloupe and Martinique?

We sincerely hope with Lord Brougham that a measure may be agreed on by France and England, in conjunction with Spain, for the suppression of slavery in Cuba itself. Let this be tried by all means. But if, after an honest and energetic trial, we should fail—why, then, we should certainly pause before recommending the country to a propagandist war in behalf of principles which we have done our duty by, at all events, in emancipating our West India slaves. There is a point at which philanthropy passes into Quixotism, which no nation is right to pass—at least not till it has satisfied itself that no duty to its own people lies undischarged—a consummation which England is very far from having yet reached, and which a great hostile struggle would itself be the surest thing to retard.

#### THE LIBRARY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Library of the House of Commons is a suite of five noble rooms, looking on to the River Terrace, all fitted up in the handsomest manner. Of the style of the fittings we need say but little, as the picture gives a better idea of these than we could do by words. The shelves and ceilings, and all the furniture, are of the finest wainscot oak. The chairs are covered with green morocco, and are stamped on the back with the portcullis. The curtains are made of green velvet, trimmed with gold fringe. We have always thought that the Library of the House of Commons is one of the finest features in the Palace. In number of volumes, of course, this library is not to be compared with many other libraries in London. It is comparatively young. Only a limited sum, we believe, is allowed every year for the purchase of books; and, moreover, it is not intended that it should embrace all classes of literature. But still it has already become a very respectable affair, and in the course of years will come to be a very large library. It is a mistake to suppose, as some do, that nothing is to be found here but Parliamentary books; all books, in all languages, are admissible, excepting works of fiction. Of course there is a decidedly professional cast about the library. But still there are not only materials for Parliamentary speech manufacturing here, but if a Member is tired of the long and prosy harangues in the House, he may find on the shelves many authors with whom he can while away an agreeable hour. The library is a favourite resort of the Members, not only for the purpose of reading, but for letter writing.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

The Emperor is at Fontainebleau, whence he has been issuing several batches of invitations. The third and last of the series is sent out, and it is remarked that the names of the Austrian and Turkish ambassadors have been omitted.

The sittings of the Conference are likely to be protracted till the middle of July; their deliberations will be confined to the points already set down for them. The Danubian Principalities question has been largely discussed.

#### SPAIN.

LORD HOWDEN has left Madrid for London. The Queen is engaged on her maritime excursion, touching at various ports. In Alicante, where the new railway was inaugurated, she seems to have been received with great enthusiasm. The opening of the railway was a very brilliant affair. Four ministers were present, and in the evening there was an illumination with 10,000 lamps, and a serenade by twenty-two bands of music.

#### AUSTRIA.

The Cabinet of Vienna recently despatched a note to Paris relative to the attitude of Sardinia. Austria desires France to exercise her influence at Turin, in order to moderate the pretensions of the Piedmontese Cabinet, and grounds this request on the fact that Piedmont seeks to represent herself as supported by France.

Several meetings have taken place on the Montenegrin question between Count Buol and the Turkish and English Ambassadors.

#### PRUSSIA.

PHYSICIANS recently called in to consult on the King's health, have strongly advised a foreign tour, as affording the best hopes for his Majesty's restoration. The King still decidedly objects to any absence from his kingdom.

#### RUSSIA.

The Russians have had another fight with the Circassians, in which engagement the former lost 500 men. But, again, we learn that the whole population of the Little Tschetsina, in the Caucasus, amounting

to 12,000 or 15,000 souls, were emigrating into Russia under the protection of the Russian troops. They had burnt their *auls*, or fortified villages. Schamyl was collecting troops. His movements were closely watched by the Russians.

Lord Wodehouse, the English Minister at St. Petersburg, had an audience of the Emperor on the 18th ult. to take leave.

The nobility of six other Russian governments have applied to St. Petersburg for liberty to form committees for serf emancipation, making thirty that have presented such an application.

The Emperor of Russia has just created a medal of merit specially intended for peasants. It will be awarded to such individuals as distinguish themselves by their industry and good conduct.

#### ITALY.

AUSTRIA having proposed to the King of Naples the arbitration or mediation of a Power of the second rank in the affair of the *Cagliari*, he declined mediation, but accepted arbitration, with the condition that it should be referred to a Great Power. The Neapolitan Government do not appear to have come to a final decision respecting the indemnity demanded by England for the detention of Park and Watt.

The King has applied to Russia for support, and M. Kissieff, the Czar's Envoy at Rome, has reached Naples.

The Turin Chamber of Deputies have voted the loan of 40,000,000*fr.*, by ninety-seven votes against sixty-two. The motion for reducing the loan to 30,000,000*fr.* was rejected by a large majority.

The Hon. Henry Howard suddenly left Florence, where he represented the English Crown, and he is now in Paris. "Something is said of indisposition," remarks the "Times" correspondent, "but severe indisposition would have prevented him from setting out on a fatiguing journey; and I suppose Tuscan is not without doctors. Lord Normanby, I believe, continues to mount guard over British interests until Lord Malmesbury finds some one to relieve him, if Mr. Howard persists in his resignation—or whatever it be."

#### TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.

FOURTEEN battalions of Turkish troops have been sent to Herzegovina and Bosnia; Halim Pacha is to command at Trebinje.

The Montenegrin boundary question is to be settled at Constantinople. In a despatch on this subject from Prince Danilo (published in the "Moniteur"), he says:—"I had placed my hopes in the government of the [French] Emperor, who is pleased to bestow on me the greatest marks of his favour. After what he has done for me and my country, it is my duty to conform to his ideas and to follow his counsels."

The accounts of the battle between the Turks and Montenegrins at Grahovo, are very conflicting. The latter aver that the Turks were the aggressors; the Turks declare that the attack was made by the Montenegrins, and that an understanding in the nature of an armistice was in existence at the time. At any rate, the victors seem very proud of the victory, and we are afraid that their leader, Prince Mirco (Prince Danilo's brother), rather exaggerates the triumph. He says in his report:—

"Our attacks fell on the enemy's masses with tremendous results, and produced an effect like that of felling timber. Out of 13,000 men, of which the Turkish army was composed, not one half escaped to relate how the Montenegrins can fight for their country. Your soldiers have cut off 7,000 Turkish heads, and taken eight pieces of artillery, 1,200 horses, and 500 tents. It has not been yet possible to ascertain the quantity of arms taken, or the rich booty which has fallen into our hands. The field of battle has the aspect of a plantation cut down, and the piles of dead Turks are horrible to look at. The Montenegrins had only forty-seven killed, and about sixty wounded."

The English war corvette the *Coquette*, and two Austrian frigates have anchored at Ragusa. The two French liners, *Eylau* and *Algésiras*, have left Gravosa, but they are under orders to remain in the Adriatic until they receive further instructions.

#### AMERICA.

THERE is a great deal of excitement in America, caused by alleged searches of American merchant-vessels by British men-of-war in the Gulf of Mexico. Nine cases of boarding, searching, and firing into by British cruisers are reported, and one general search of nine or ten vessels lying in one of the ports of Cuba. "Indignation meetings" of shipowners have been held, and resolutions have been passed by both Houses of Congress calling upon the Government to move in the matter. The result is that orders have been sent to the American squadron in the Gulf, directing them to prevent at all hazards any further attempts on the part of the British to interfere with vessels sailing under the American flag. Moreover, Mr. Dallas, the American Minister in London, is instructed to lay the facts before the British Government, and to demand satisfaction for the insults offered to the American flag, and indemnity for whatever damages American vessels have sustained from the visitations of the British cruisers; also, that peremptory orders shall be issued and enforced for stopping the search of American vessels at sea. The search was, of course, for slaves.

Havannah advices state that a party of English marines were landed from the steamer *Styx* east of Cardenas, and hunted the plantations for negroes, but found none, and retired after exciting alarm and indignation by the invasion. The Spanish captain in command of the district had been ordered to Havannah for neglect of duty in not resisting by force the aggression.

The last news from the Utah expedition is so favourable that we are afraid to believe it. The story goes that the Mormons are decamping *en masse* to the White River Mountains, about 150 miles from Salt Lake City, and that Brigham Young has invited Governor Cumming, the Federal appointee, to enter in and take possession, thus bringing the military enterprise to an inglorious but gratifying conclusion.

A hail storm in Virginia has destroyed nearly all the crops in a wide circuit.

#### CHINA.

THE news from China is of some interest. Lord Elgin was at Shanghai. He received a deputation of merchants on the 29th, of March, and replied to an address from them. He said that his instructions originally gave him a wide discretion. It had been since so widened, as to leave him to act in a great measure on his own judgment. He had never receded from his just and moderate demand on the Chinese. He was ready to repeat in the vicinity of Peking the experiment made at Canton—if necessary. In this policy he could count upon the co-operation of the French, and the goodwill of the other Powers. But when force and diplomacy had done their part, the work would be only at its commencement. Christian civilisation will have to win its way among a sceptical and ingenious people. He hoped the merchants would give him their aid to enable him to judge correctly of the causes that have given Shanghai its eminent position among the ports opened to trade in China. Lord Elgin and all the ministers go to Teentsin, there to negotiate with the Government of Peking.

THE INQUITOUS DUEL.—M. de Pène, according to our latest accounts, still lives, but no well-grounded hope is entertained of his recovery. Hyenne and Courtiel (the latter a near relative of the Minister of the Interior, and whose conduct in the first duel is admitted to be honourable though foolish), were summoned to Versailles and interrogated. The officers of the garrison afterwards gave them an entertainment, the colonel commanding at Versailles presiding, and it is said that a toast was drunk to the defenders of the army, with some smart remarks about journalism and journalists. The animosity between the military and the opposite element, the civil, grows stronger and stronger; and we learn that a conflict between the military and the bourgeoisie actually took place a few nights ago at a café in the Rue de Bondy. The military expelled a carpenter from the café; but he returned with some of his fellow-workmen, and the soldiers were in their turn expelled.

BOHEMIA TRIUMPHANT.—The "Sun" tells the following story:—"Some friendly Power (not named) had pressed upon the King the necessity of according indemnification for Watt and Park; but his Majesty had positively refused, and added—'If I am annoyed any more by the English Government on this question, I will appeal to Russia and Austria for protection. The English ought to be only too glad to have obtained the release of their revolutionists.'"

### THE INDIAN REVOLT.

The latest news, by telegraph, from India, is of a rather grave nature.

The Commander-in-Chief and General Walpole entered Shahjehanpore without opposition on the 30th of April, and marched for Bareilly on the 2nd of May. Three other columns are to join as they advance on Bareilly, which is expected to be invested about the 10th instant (May). Nana Sahib was in Bareilly.

The rebel Moulvie and the mother of the puppet King are said to have abandoned Datsowli (?), where they had taken refuge, and to have fled into the Baracota Pannamah, beyond the Gogra.

The main body of the Ghoorkas is proceeding to Nepal *via* Fyzabad, which is held by Mann Singh, with 2,000 men and two guns, and the Ghoorkas do not expect any opposition. Jung Bahadoor, with his body-guard, has already passed through Gorakhpore.

#### "REBELS' DIVISION."

Sir E. Lazard reached Azimgarh on the 15th, and the rebels were driven out of the city on the 17th of April. They fled in several parties towards the Gogra and Ganges, and the pursuing columns captured several guns and much ammunition and baggage, abandoned by the rebels in their flight. Koor Singh, assisted by the villagers, outstripped Brigadier Douglas, who was pursuing him, and, crossing the Ganges at Shahpore on the 21st, made for Jugdeespoor. His subsequent proceedings will be noticed under the head of Bengal.

An action with the rebels under Mahomed Hosein and Colonel Rowcroft's force took place near Amoria, in the Gorakhpore district, on the 17th of April. The enemy were defeated and pursued to their intrenchment, losing one gun and about 100 men. The Yeomanry Cavalry behaved exceedingly well; their loss was Cornet Troup and one private killed, four officers and seventeen men wounded.

#### "ALLAHABAD DIVISION."

General Whitelock arrived at Bandon on the 19th of April, having at Bhoragurh defeated the Nawab, who fled precipitately. General Whitelock captured four guns, and took possession of the city and palace of the Nawab. Eight guns were taken afterwards abandoned by the rebels and taken. Our loss, one officer, Lieutenant Colbeck, 3rd Madras Europeans, killed; two officers wounded.

It is reported from Calpee that Tantia Topce, the Ranees of Jhansi, and the Rajahs of Shahpur and Campoor, with 7,000 men and five guns, are encamped at Koonch to oppose Sir Hugh Rose.

The Rao Sahib, with 1,000 men and the relics of the Banda Nawab's force, is at Jubbulpore with three guns to oppose General White-lock at Calpee, where there are 2,500 men and three guns.

#### "ROHILKHAND DIVISION."

Colonel Jones's column was at Mahadabad on the 26th, having apparently experienced little opposition.

Majoor Khan, a rebel leader of some note, was seized by Captain Angelo, of Coke's Rifles. Twenty-eight guns have been captured by this column since it left Roorkie; six of these were taken on the 17th near Nagul, nine on the 18th in the fort of Nujeebabad, and ten on the 22nd at Nugeenah.

Brigadier-General Walpole's division defeated the rebels on the 22nd of April; four guns were taken, and their baggage, camp equipment, &c., captured at Allygunj after a long pursuit. The Ramgunga has thus been turned, and the bridge at Allygunj secured for the passage of the siege train. In an attack of the fort of Rooca (?) some days previous to this action, Brigadier Adrian Hope and three other officers were killed.

Brigadier Penny's brigade crossed the Ganges at Meelee on the 27th of April, and will probably proceed towards Budaon, joining the Commander-in-Chief before he reaches Bareilly. (Another despatch says:—"General Penny was at Puncle on the 26th of April, and marched thence on that day to join the Commander-in-Chief. A telegram from Futtehgurh, dated the 2nd of May, states that he had followed the rebels into an ambush at Ruporal, and that he was killed; but that the enemy was totally defeated by his troops.")

#### "BENGAL—ARRAH."

A party, consisting of 250 Europeans, 150 Sikhs, with two mountain-train howitzers, from Arrah, under the command of Captain Le Grand, attacked Koor Singh, near Inde Espore (Jugdeespoor?) on the 23rd of April. They were repulsed with the loss of three officers—Captain Le Grand, Lieutenant Massey, and Dr. Clerk, of her Majesty's 35th regiment, and a large number of men. The two guns were spiked and abandoned. Sir E. Lugard had since crossed the Ganges.

Then we have the following in a

#### "SUPPLEMENTARY DESPATCH."

Brigadier Pennell attacked the rebels on the 30th of April, about ten miles from Budaon, and defeated them, taking several guns.

Koor Singh's force, by the latest accounts, was intrenching itself at Jung Deespoor (Jugdeespoor?). Koor Singh himself was wounded in forcing his way to Jung Deespoor, and is now said to have died from the effects of his wounds.

A party of rebels, about 1,000 strong, surprised the police and the Tehsildar establishment at Cawnpore on the 2nd of May. The Tehsildar was wounded and a small amount of treasure lost.

Rusoolabad (in the Punjab) has again been threatened. The field force under General Sir Sidney Cotton attacked and burnt Tanita on the 25th of April. The rebel chief of that place suffered great loss in property; about twenty of his followers were killed and wounded in the attack. There was no loss on our side. One of the new Punjab regiments under Lieutenant Thelwell distinguished itself greatly.

The first brigade of Sir H. Rose's force left Jhansi on the 26th of April, for Calpee. A report has been received by electric telegraph that he met and defeated the rebels at Koonch. Sir H. Rose will effect a junction with General Whitelock before attacking Calpee. On the 25th of April the father of the Ranees of Jhansi was executed at Jhansi. A strong brigade under Colonel Smith left Kotah on April 26th to co-operate with Sir H. Rose, and protect that officer's rear.

Sir W. Peel died at Cawnpore, on the 27th of April, of small pox.

Sir John Lawrence has assumed charge of the Delhi, Hissar, and Sirsa districts, and has called upon every community and section of a community to repay the losses sustained by the Europeans during the rebellion. The repayment will be collected either as a fine or by the sale of estates or property. Under this order the Lodeanah Mission has already received twenty-four thousand rupees.

#### THE SPOILS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

The "Times" correspondent with the army at Lucknow says:—"Ere this letter reaches England many a diamond, emerald, and delicate pearl will have told its tale in a very quiet, pleasant way of the storm and sack of the Kaiserbagh. It is just as well that the fair wearers—though jewellery, after all, has a deadening effect on the sensitiveness of the feminine conscience—saw not how the glittering baubles were won, or the scenes in which the treasure was trove. Indeed, it is only truth to tell that most of those interesting memorials of the siege of Lucknow were bought—bargains very often—by officers on the spot from soldiers hot from plunder. And some of those officers have made literally their fortunes. There are fine bracelets clasp brawny wrists, the proceeds of which are already devoted to buggies, and dogs, and horses, to Greenwich, and to the Rag, or to the Junior, or to the E.I.U.S.C. in delightful anticipations. There are certain small caskets in battered uniform cases which contain estates in Scotland and Ireland, and snug fishing and shooting-boxes of every game-haunted or salmon-frequented angle of the world. There are single jewels which shall meet the demands of Von Steltus and Co., settle that little transaction at the Corner, pay off the injured Smith, and leave a good balance with the agent besides in young Queens's favour, and Cuspid returns home, if all accounts be true, with quite sufficient to meet the extravagant propositions of old Mrs. Partlet for a settlement ten times over. Pleasant times, but apt to make men find the sun too hot! It is curious to observe how riches develop disease; how one's liver is affected by loot, and what tremendous ravages in one's family, among the nearest and dearest, can be caused by a few crystals of carbon. The private carrying his musket, and panting along the arid plain, is



tormented with visions of a cool interior after the Dutch school—lots of pipes, pots, and taps—himself in the midst—he the proprietor of that glorious 'public' in his native village!—he can be, if he can but get home. The weight of the belt round his waist full of rupees and gold mohurs assures him the vision can be realised, and it is no wonder if he resents the 'Fall in there! fall in!' He has taken castles enough, and our good friend of the 38th or 90th feels just as the legionary soldiers in the days of Horace, or as the fierce Sikh beside him, who is mad to be off to his village, and can scarcely be kept quiet with many promises. Two battas, two shares of prize money, the plunder of two cities, and many 'pickings by the way' have made some of our men too rich for easy soldiering. Even the 32nd, when they were relieved from Lucknow, managed to carry out a considerable quantity of valuables. But just in proportion to the 'luck' of some regiments are the misfortunes and consequent dissatisfaction of others. Every day adds to the prize property, and it is estimated that the sales will produce £600,000. At one time a discovery of cash is made, at another plate, silver, and gold are found in some ingenious hiding place, which excites some uneasy forebodings that the army 'won't get its due,' then a casket of jewels is revealed, or some soldier is obliged to give up his secret store; the Sikhs—ingenious to such a degree, and versed so far in looting that it is said one of them can appraise the value of articles in a house by walking past the hall-door, and that they can 'smell' gold, silver, and precious stones—have lately taken to exploiting the bottom of the Goomtee, and their labours have been rewarded by the recovery of great quantities of rich arms, swords, pistols, matchlocks, rifles, muskets, and articles of various kinds, and some diving and groping excursions in the tanks have been more or less successful. The town of Cawnpore is said to be full of the plunder of Lucknow; and if the damage done to public buildings, the destruction of private property, the deterioration in value of houses and land, and the results of depopulation could be estimated, it would be found that the capital of Oude had sustained a loss of five or six millions sterling—a loss which it never can by any possibility recover, even if the efforts of our government were devoted to the resuscitation of the corrupt, vicious, and evil-minded inhabitants.

#### OUR FRIEND MAUN SINGH.

The same correspondent says:—"The conduct of Maun Singh is calculated to give rise to serious suspicions. Here we have news that this man, who long ago promised to come into Sir James Outram and make his submission, is about to go to Allahabad to meet Jung Bahadur, his friend and councillor. He goes at a time when he is, according to his own account, suspected by the enemy and surrounded by them at his fortress of Shahgunj."

#### SCARCITY OF FOOD IN LOWER BENGAL.

The rebellion in the upper provinces is now producing, as one of its consequences, a marked effect on the prices of the staple articles of food in Lower Bengal. Rice and mustard oil are the two articles which are most extensively consumed in the ordinary diet of the great mass of the native population. They are both nearly doubled in price as compared with their prices the same date last year.

**THE MURDERS IN INDIA.**—We have a "general return of slaughter" in India:—At Delhi the number massacred was 186. During the outbreak at Cawnpore, Indore, and Mhow, 52 Europeans were murdered. In the Allahabad Division 41 persons were sacrificed by the treacherous sepoys, and at Morut 31. At Agra the murders amounted to 58. Hissar witnessed the massacre of 30 Europeans; Jhansi of 19. At Bareilly, Rumeerpoore, and Gurnepore the victims numbered respectively 14, 12, and 13, besides 10 in the Lower Provinces. At Meerutabad, at Jhansi, at Bana, at Seeloke, at the Punjab, and at several other places, more than 50 others were foully murdered. And last, and most terrible of all, we have to include the tragedies enacted at Cawnpore, where, without reckoning the soldiers of her Majesty's 22nd and 84th Foot and the Bengal Artillery stationed there at the time of the outbreak, with their wives and children, and the wives and children of 40 clerks, making together several hundreds; 702 persons were massacred by the sepoys. The lists of the murdered at Cawnpore occupy nearly twelve columns of the Supplement to the "Gazette," and although by no means complete, owing to the uncertainty which hangs over the fate of some who may have escaped from the hands of the murderers, they are firmly true in most of their details. The returns given show that about 1220 persons were foully massacred in Bengal, in the year of grace 1857, but to these we have to add the women, children, and soldiers at Cawnpore, whose numbers are not given, but are computed at "several hundred," so that, in addition to those who have fallen in battle, or died from wounds, we have a sad total of about 1,700 or 1,800 persons.

#### THE LATE BRIGADIER HOPE.

BRIGADIER GENERAL THE HON. ADRIAN HOPE, C.B., of the 93rd Highlanders, whose death is reported by the same telegram which brings us news of Sir W. Peel's death, was one of the most able and popular of those young officers whom the warfare in the Crimea and in India brought into prominence. He was the youngest brother of the late Earl of Hopetoun, and uncle to the present peer; he was born in 1821, and entered the army as second lieutenant, 60th Rifles, in 1838, with the second battalion of which regiment he served as captain through the Kafir campaign of 1841-52-53, and received the brevet rank of major for his services. On the formation of the army of the Eastern expedition, in 1854, Major Hope was appointed brigade major to the Highland Brigade, then commanded by Sir Colin Campbell, and in that capacity served at the Alma and other operations up to the month of April, 1855, when his promotion to a regimental majority in the 60th compelled him to relinquish his staff appointment, but in a few months afterwards he rejoined the army in the field as second lieutenant-colonel of the 53rd, and served till the return of the army from the Crimea. When the 53rd was ordered to China, he was re-appointed to the regiment, and sailed with it to India, where he was almost immediately placed in command of a brigade, consisting of the 53rd, 93rd, and a corps of Punjab Rifles; this brigade he led to the relief of Lucknow, and the subsequent re-advance to that place gained him the warmest approval of his chief. Colonel Hope's death was caused by a shot from a Sepoy, who fired at him from a distance of about twenty yards while he was out reconnoitring.

#### DEATH OF CAPT. SIR WILLIAM PEEL, K.C.B.

THE DEATH of this gallant officer, at Cawnpore, from small-pox, is commented by telegram, in anticipation of the Bombay mail. Capt. Sir William Peel was third son of the late Sir Robert Peel, Bart., and was born in November, 1824. He entered the navy as midshipman on board the Princess Charlotte, flag of Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, in April, 1838, and took part in the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre, from which ship he removed to the Monarch, and afterwards to the Cambrian, Captain Chads, in which ship he served in the China seas. In 1844, he passed his examination in such a brilliant manner, that he called forth the warm eulogiums of Sir Thomas Hastings and Sir Charles Napier, and was forthwith promoted to the rank of lieutenant. In May, that year, he was appointed to the Winchester, 50 guns, on the Cape of Good Hope station, and shortly after removed to the Comorant, steam-sloop, in the Pacific, and subsequently to the Thalia, 42, on the same station. Sir William was promoted to the rank of commander 27th June, 1846, and appointed to the command of the Daring, on the North American and West India station. He held several minor commands until the outbreak of the late war with Russia. He was captain of the Diamond, 28, in the Black Sea fleet, and distinguished himself greatly with the naval brigade in the Crimea; indeed his name will for ever be associated with the gallant doings of the Diamond battery before Sebastopol. Captain Peel was compelled, from wounds and over-exertion, to return to his native country before the fall of that formidable fortress, to recruit his health, but his services were acknowledged by the bestowal of the Victoria Cross.

At the commencement of the differences with China, in 1856, Captain Peel was appointed to the command of the Shannon, 51, screw frigate, ordered on the China station. He had scarcely reached the Chinese waters before he was ordered by the ambassador, Lord Elgin, to proceed with spare troops to Calcutta to afford assistance in the suppression of the mutiny in the Bengal army. Since the Shannon anchored in the Hooghly, Sir William Peel's exertions with his brave crew were unremitting in carrying out the views of the General-Governor. He made a rapid progress to Allahabad and into Cawnpore, and, as most of our readers are aware, was severely wounded in the capture of Lucknow under Sir Colin Campbell, by a musket shot in the thigh.

Captain Peel was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath for his services in the Crimea, and for his recent services in India nominated a Knight-Commander of that order of knighthood. He was also an officer of the Legion of Honour of France, and of the Imperial Order of the Medjidie, and had received the Sardinian war medal. Sir William was the favourite son of his illustrious father. It is related that in speaking of his son after the war on the coast of Syria, Sir Robert Peel said, "I am indeed proud of my sailor son. If he have the opportunity, I feel certain he will follow the heroic career of one he seeks to emulate—Nelson."

#### IRELAND.

**EXTRAORDINARY RIOT IN BELFAST.**—On Sunday a funeral procession passed from the Pound at Belfast to Friar's Bush graveyard to inter the body of a woman, daughter-in-law of one Hackett, chairman of the ex-Gun Club. There were about 1,000 persons in the procession, including a number of young women, linked two and two. On returning about six o'clock, in the same order, the young women carried green boughs, and as they passed through Great Victoria Street one of the girls put a branch which she was carrying into the face of a person passing, telling him at the same time to "smell the green." This was the signal for a riot; the offenders were pelted with stones, and some women were knocked down and beaten. The denizens of Sandy Row rushed out in a body, and the fight became general. One of the constabulary was beaten severely, his nose having been broken and his ear split. The combatants then went up to Pound Street, and as the people were going into a church there they were attacked and beaten. This drew out the Protestants of that locality, and another fight followed. A body of constabulary now arrived, they, too, were fiercely attacked with stones, and at length the resident magistrate was compelled to read the Riot Act, and directed the constabulary to fire on the mob. Just as they were about to obey orders a young man entreated the magistrate to give him five minutes, and he would endeavour to get the crowd to disperse. Through his timely interference the mob broke up without further bloodshed. Several policemen were severely wounded, and of the five magistrates who were out not one escaped without receiving blows.

**BURIAL OF MR. JOHN O'CONNELL.**—The funeral of Mr. John O'Connell took place on Friday week, and assumed very largely the character of a national demonstration of affection and respect. The corpse was followed to its last resting place by some of the most distinguished men in Ireland, while the line of route to the cemetery was occupied by thousands of mourners. Immediately after the funeral ceremony a subscription was opened for the benefit of the deceased's family, and a large sum of money was at once subscribed.

**OUTRAGE AT FERMoy BARRACKS.**—Three deserters made their escape, a few days ago, from the guard-house at Fermoy. They beat the sentinel almost to death, and scaled the barrack wall. Twelve men had been left on guard, but they had all fallen asleep. The deserters have not yet been retaken.

**LOSS OF LIFE OFF THE ENNISHOWEN COAST.**—"The storm which prevailed last week," a Londenry paper says, "has been attended with the most awful consequences to the fishermen of Ennishowen. Upwards of twenty lives are known to have been lost, and from the painful rumours which are current as to those missing from other points along the Donegal coast, and the anticipations formed by men of experience, we shall not be surprised if the number who perished should eventually reach nearly double the above estimate."

**SMITH O'BRIEN ON A FRENCH INVASION.**—Having exhausted the stock of home subjects, Mr. Smith O'Brien has contributed to the "Nation" a long essay on the state of foreign relations; in which performance we have his views respecting the reception of an invading army in Ireland. He says:—"I am inclined to think that there is in Ireland a considerable section of the population who would prefer to live under French rule rather than under the Government of Great Britain, but I do not participate in this sentiment. The constitutional Government of Great Britain is greatly preferable to the arbitrary despotism which now prevails in France. With me, at least, no amount of material prosperity could compensate this deprivation of liberty. I am, therefore, little disposed to wish that my country should be converted into a French province. Do not imagine that a French army would aid you to acquire national independence. Wherever the French arms have been borne—whether into Spain, into Italy, into Belgium or Holland—they have been carried for the extension of French power, not with a view to the liberation of oppressed nationalities. I confess, therefore, that I would earnestly wish to see 300,000 Irishmen under arms when the French colonies prepare to pay their promised visit to London. Perhaps the Irish people if armed might, in the event of hostilities with France, call to mind the precedent set them by their fathers in 1782, and might say, 'We will protect your empire in the hour of its utmost need, but as a preliminary, we require the restitution of a Parliament to Ireland with unrestricted powers of self-government.' Such a demand—such a compact would be perfectly legitimate."

#### THE PROVINCES.

**MECHANICS' INSTITUTES IN YORKSHIRE.**—The twenty-first annual meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutions was held at Selby on Wednesday, Mr. Edward Baines of Leeds in the chair. There are now 127 associations working in cordial union. The number of members and the amount of the funds have increased, and the Union was never in a more satisfactory state. There was afterwards a dinner, over which the Earl of Londesborough presided.

**VARIATION ON AN OLD SWINDLE.**—At an inn, at Knighton, Herefordshire, on a fair-day, sat some farmers making merry, when in came a cattle-dealer in a hurry, and called for some refreshment. Immediately after a "farmer" entered, and vociferously exclaimed, "I want the money for them there cattle—I must go." "Well, my friend," says the dealer, "I will pay you now," thereupon producing a roll of bank notes. "I have got change for that there note," "Well, wait a bit; perhaps some kind friend present will oblige me with gold for two ten-pound notes." Farmer friend gets into a pet, "very natural-like," he must go home. Thereupon, the dealer explains that he would much rather, as he is too busy to go to the bank, "give any gentleman present five shillings to cash those two ten-pound notes." One of the farmers present at once handed over twenty sovereigns for the two ten-pound bills, payable when the bank shall have been founded; the date, however, has not yet been fixed. The five shillings were, however, handed over, the other parties at once making off.

**A MAN STABBED TO DEATH AT WORCESTER.**—George Turner, a recruit, and Joseph Barnard, an ostler, quarrelled in the kitchen of the Hope and Anchor Inn, Worcester. Turner attempted to take something from a plate which was before Barnard, when the latter stabbed him in the breast. Turner fell to the ground, where he died two hours after. Barnard is in custody.

**MYSTERIOUS.**—Mr. Joseph Longbottom, proprietor of Pepper Lane colliery, Hunslet, was on Sunday night found dead and dreadfully mutilated at the bottom of his own pit, but whether his death was the result of an accident, or his own act, is unknown. In order to get close to the shaft, he must have stepped over a wooden rail two feet high, then have walked seven or eight feet, and afterwards crept under another rail about four feet high. A son of the deceased, about four years ago, committed suicide on the night of his marriage. The young man was staying at his father's house in Hunslet, and early on the morning following the marriage, his newly-made wife was found on the pavement outside the house, insensible, and clothed only in her night-dress. Her husband could not be found for some time, but ultimately it was discovered that he had walked through the snow, barefooted and in his night shirt, a distance of two or three hundred yards, to the water, where he drowned himself. The young wife slowly recovered, for she had fallen or was thrown from the chamber window, but to this day she has been unable to give any account of the affair.

**POISONING A CHILD WITH INK.**—A short time since we reported that a young woman, an inmate of the Liverpool Workhouse, had attempted to destroy the life of her new-born child, by mixing ink with its food. The poor little baby has since died. Before the child's death its mother, Mary Jones, was committed by the magistrates for attempt to poison; a coroner's jury have now returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against her.

**MURDER NEAR NEWCASTLE.**—John Cairn, an Irish labourer, of Newcastle, with six or seven other men, sallied from a public-house, and on approaching Saint Antony's, a collision took place between them and another party. A pistol was fired, and Cairn, dreadfully wounded in two places on the neck and under the ear, died almost immediately. Five men have been apprehended. Four of them were wounded, and a pistol, recently discharged, was found in the house of the fifth.

**LAMENTABLE CASE OF SUICIDE.**—The son of a labouring man named Litter, at Seacombe, near Chester, recently ran away from home in order to escape some punishment with which he was threatened for misconduct. He returned, however, the following day, and was soon afterwards apprehended by a police officer on a charge of stealing some bottles of wine and a writing-desk; and on this charge the boy was committed to Chester Castle for twenty-one days. On the second day of his imprisonment, he learnt that his mother had been taken seriously ill in consequence of his apprehension, and he begged to be allowed to go home and see her. The officers of the prison vainly attempted to calm the boy's feelings; his grief was beyond control, and at length brought on a fit. He was last seen alive at three o'clock one afternoon by the deputy-governor of the prison. When the jailer went into his cell with his tea at six o'clock the same evening, he found the lad hanging suspended from a hook in the wall. Life was quite extinct, and on a slate in the cell a few words were written by the boy to his parents, saying that he should die if they did not come to see him. An inquest was held, and the jury returned a verdict of "Temporary Insanity, caused by excessive grief."

**OPENING OF THE LEEDS NEW TOWN HALL BY THE QUEEN.**—The Queen has signified her intention of inaugurating the noble Town Hall of that borough at the end of August. Her Majesty will remain in Leeds one night. The town will be particularly gay and busy in the autumn; for, in addition to the opening of the Town Hall, there will be the musical festival of four days to follow, and the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

**SINGULAR ACCIDENT.**—The house of John Lodge, at Bradford, has a cellar-kitchen, and in the house-kitchen above several persons assembled on a Saturday for the funeral of Mrs. Lodge. The company were about to sing a hymn previous to the removal of the coffin, when one of the large flags of the floor gave way, and six of the company were precipitated into the kitchen below. The large flagstone (which was broken in two) went down at the same time, and fell upon two young women, each of whom had a leg broken. The cause of the accident was soon apparent. Though above six feet long, the flagstone was little more than two inches thick, and of very inferior quality; each end simply rested upon a beam, the stone having no support in the centre. All who fell through the floor were more or less injured.

**AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.**—Estimating prospects in the north-midland counties are of a very satisfactory character. A more favourable spring than the present, both for seeding operations and cleaning the land, has never been known; and all the grain crops have come up remarkably even and well, while the root crops are equally prosperous. There is no deficiency of wheat plant anywhere; on the contrary, it stands much too thickly on the ground in many places. The long prevalence of cool, dull, and rather humid weather has had the effect of turning some of the crops yellow in places, and instances are reported of the plant being already laid by the rains; but two or three months of bright warm weather will give us an abundant wheat harvest. Barley has generally come up even and fine, and promises to be of excellent quality. Beans and peas look healthy, and good accounts are given of potatoes, turnips, and mangold-wurtzel. An unusual crop of fruit is expected. The flocks have increased by a large number of lambs, though in some districts considerable losses of ewes have been sustained. Sheep-shearing has been rather later than usual this year, owing to the coldness of the weather; but on all hands a good crop of wool is spoken of. The hay harvest will not be so late as was at one time anticipated: both meadows and old pastures have a luxuriant appearance.

**FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.**—About midnight on Friday a goods train from Manchester to Bedford, on the Manchester and Sheffield Railway, was turned into the Hyde branch by a mistake of the pointsman at Newton Wood Junction. It proceeded at a rapid speed along the short branch line, and before it could be stopped came in violent contact with the terminal breaks, so that the engine and four wagons were dashed off the line into a coal-yard about twenty-five feet below. The driver, James Wilson, about thirty years of age, was found under the engine with no bones broken, but so dreadfully scalded that he died two hours afterwards. The engine and wagons were, of course considerably damaged; but the goods in the train escaped injury. On Saturday evening, a man named Galloway, inspector of carriage-wheels at the Crease station, was selected to act as extra guard to a London and North-western passenger train from Crewe to Stockport, which arrived there about nine o'clock. He passed from his van to some other carriages between Stockport and Heaton Norris, and, it is supposed, missed his footing; for the unfortunate man's body was afterwards found on the line completely disfigured, and with several limbs fractured. The greater part of his own train, and the whole of a succeeding one, which followed a few minutes later, passed over him. Peter Sutcliffe, a guard on the East Lancashire Railway, had a narrow escape last week. He was doing something on the roof of a carriage, when his head came in contact with a bridge, and he was knocked over; but his foot caught the iron railing round the roof of the carriage, by which he was able to sustain himself; though in the frightful position of being suspended head downwards on the side of the carriage, while the train was in motion. Some passengers, who saw his perilous situation, shouted to the engine-driver, but their voices could not be heard. At length a gentleman walked on the footboards along the side of the carriages towards the engine, called the attention of the driver to the accident, and the train was stopped in time to rescue Sutcliffe from his perilous situation.

#### THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

The cable having been shipped and all prepared, the Atlantic Telegraph expedition has gone to sea on an experimental trip; it was to return at the end of this week. The programme of the experiments was as follows:—Directly the Agamemnon and Niagara were out of "soundings" (meaning in about 2,000 fathoms, a piece of waste cable was to be passed from one ship to the other, and a splice made. The cable would then be sunk from both vessels, and after a variety of experiments had been made as to its strength, by means of running out, &c., the "reeling in" machines were to be set to work to attempt to coil it up again. This latter portion of the task is so full of difficulty, that but little hope is entertained of recovering the piece with which the experiments are made, and which, to the length of some thirty or forty miles, will probably remain at the bottom of the Atlantic. The loss of this piece, however, is of little consequence, since it is a portion of the coil lost in the attempt of last year, and which was irretrievably injured in recovery. This experimental trip finished, the vessels return to port, and the final preparations being completed, the squadron will immediately sail for the great undertaking. Our readers are aware that the cable will be submerged by both ships from the centre of the Atlantic, instead of commencing from the Irish coast as was the case last year.

The Niagara will be allowed an advantage over the Agamemnon of some 60 or 100 miles; that is, the junction of the wires will not be made exactly midway between Valentia and Newfoundland, but at the distance we have mentioned nearer to the American shore. No attempt will be made to effect the splice until the weather is fair and the barometer rising.

#### TWELVE LIVES LOST IN A COAL MINE.

An explosion of fire damp has occurred in the Brynder colliery, situate near Pyle, Glamorganshire, by which every man in the working was killed, not one of twelve men being left alive to explain the origin of the catastrophe. Their bodies were not recovered until after some hours, most of them being frightfully disfigured. It is thought that the explosion was caused by the blasting in a heading in "the nine-foot vein," where large quantities of gas usually accumulate; but no certain information can be obtained. The deceased were nearly all married, and about forty children are left fatherless by the event.

**THE FUTURE OF THE LEVIATHAN.**—The Eastern Steam Navigation Company propose to raise the £220,000 required for the completion of the Leviathan by granting annuities of £5 terminable in eight years for a payment of £20. They have also decided that the vessel shall be permanently employed in the traffic between England and America. Portland, in the State of Maine, whence there is direct communication with all the principal railways of the United States and Canada, is to be the American port, and Holyhead or Liverpool will be selected on this side. It is hoped that the passage will be regularly accomplished in seven days, and that seven or eight voyages out and home may be performed yearly. An estimate is put forward of probable earnings, showing a net profit of £17,700 per voyage. In this it is assumed that the number of passengers each way will be 2,100, and that the fares should be £21, £12, and £6 for first, second, and third class.

**THE NEW BELL FOR THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.**—The new bell for the Houses of Parliament has been removed from the foundry to the base of the great clock tower, at Westminster Palace. It was placed upon an iron truck, securely bound with ropes, and drawn by sixteen horses. The new bell is ornamented with Gothic tracery in low relief. On one side of it is the portico of Westminster, and on the other the arms of England, sharp and clear, as if chased by the hand. Round the upper lip is cast, in Gothic letters, the following inscription:—"This bell, weighing—tons,—cwt.,—qrs.,—lb., was cast by Mr. George Meers, of Whitechapel, for the clock of the Houses of Parliament, under the direction of Edmund Beckett Denison, Q.C., in the 21st year of the reign of Queen Victoria, and in the year of our Lord MDCCCLVIII." There is less metal in the present bell than in the former; its dimensions are less, and its form is slightly different. The head is more rounded and the waist more sloped in. The sound line, or place on which the clapper strikes, is also half an inch less in thickness than that of the old bell. The unexpected thickness of metal in one part of the old bell caused its note to alter from what was intended—from E to E natural. With the present bell no accident of this kind has occurred. It is said to be so full of sound that a slight stroke with a common switch makes it ring with a tolerable tone, and the vibration after the bell has been struck with the clapper gradually settles down like the sound of a trumpet slowly dying away. The clapper is about half the weight of the one originally cast, being about 6 cwt. instead of 12 cwt. This bell, when hoisted, will not ring out in climes with its four neighbours, but is intended to toll the hours.

**CORPORATION REFORM.**—The bill for the reform of the corporation of the City of London was under the consideration of a special Court of Common Council last week. After a long discussion, the court resolved to waive, for the present, all minor differences, and to unite for repelling the common danger. The report of the Inquiry Committee concluded with the subjoined suggestion:—"We, therefore, recommend your honourable court to present a petition to the House of Commons to recommit the bill to the select committee, and praying that the corporation may be heard against the confiscation clauses thereof, and generally against the measure." Mr. Anderson denounced the bill at some length, and in conclusion tore to atoms a copy of the bill which he held in his hands, exclaiming amid the laughter of the court, "Dash the bill! I don't like it at all; I should like to see it burnt by the common hangman!"



## PRINCE BARIATINSKY IN THE CAUCASUS.

IN No. 112 of this journal we published two illustrations of the embarkation and progress of Prince Bariatsky, the newly-appointed Governor-General of the Caucasus. We then promised to report on the further progress of the Prince, which we now do, with the accompanying illustrations from sketches by Monsieur Blanchard, who attended the Prince, for the purpose of recording the leading incidents and scenes of the journey, with his pencil, for the Emperor of Russia.

In writing to a friend from Tiflis, Mr. Blanchard says: "It was midnight, and I was in a sound sleep on board the steamer *Volga*, when suddenly I was aroused with the information that we had arrived off Petrowsky. I hastened on deck to snatch a look at this Caucasian land I had journeyed so far to see, and of which I had dreamed so much. I was not prepared for the scene which presented itself to my eager eyes. Petrowsky, properly speaking, is not a town of any pretensions; it is nothing but a long, straggling collection of buildings; but the night was dark, and the authorities had so skilfully embellished the houses, and the footways leading up

the mountain sides, with lines of fire, that the latter appeared interminable. Here and there, at distant intervals, tubs of burning naphtha looked like so many craters vomiting forth volcanic flames; while the castle cannon, situated on an eminence near the town, lent the thunders of its voice to the loud and prolonged cheering which greeted the representative of the Emperor of Russia as he stepped on the Caucasian soil.

"I would have dwelt longer on the beauty of this scene, but the boat was waiting to take me on shore. A few minutes later, and I was treading the land of Daghestan, so often drenched with human blood. I rose early the following morning, and found the city in a state of bustle and excitement. Crowds of Tcherkesses, mounted on gaily-caparisoned horses, armed to the teeth, and in picturesque costumes, thronged the streets. Prince Bariatsky was occupied during the morning in reviewing the troops of the garrison and in inspecting the citadel.

"General the Prince Orbéliane, who commands in this part of the country, had everything in readiness for the continuation of our journey, so

that we set out in the afternoon, and in the following order:—At the head of the caravan came upwards of a hundred native militiamen in gay and brilliant costumes, then the carriage of the Prince, followed by a dozen others drawn severally by four, five, and six horses, and finally the wagons conveying the servants and baggage. Each carriage was escorted by a party of Cossacks of the Don and Caucasian soldiers, who every now and then galloped round the carriage of the Prince, and, hurling their sheep-skin caps in the air, discharged their carbines at them, invariably piercing them with the ball. This reminded me of a *fantasia* which I had witnessed in Morocco. These fellows are wonderful riders, and cannot, I am sure, be equalled; no matter how steep the mountain, or how slippery or uneven the soil, they still gallop on. Steeple-chase riders would, I think, derive considerable advantage by taking a few lessons from these nomadic soldiers.

"The rapidity with which we travelled over the sixty verst which separated us from Temir-Khan-Choura was astonishing. Night overtook us before we reached the town, which was in a perfect blaze of fire, in celebration of the Prince's arrival; and here again the cannon



THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE CAUCASUS AND SUITE.

poured forth its thunder, and the sky was illumined with all manner of fire-works. The scene was an exciting one, and had it not been for the numerous horsemen about us in Oriental costume, it would have been difficult to have convinced me that I was in Asia, notwithstanding all that has been told of the marvels of the land.

"It would be impossible for me to give a minute description of all the *filas* that were offered to Prince Bariatsky throughout the long journey. Each differed from the others, according to the locality: illuminated towns—a *giorno*—sumptuous banquets, fireworks—such were the bases of the programme, and yet each day was distinctive from the preceding one. An eager wish to serve, good intentions on all sides, a cordial welcome, faith and hope in the future of the Caucasus—these were the only things that were identical everywhere.

"The day following our arrival at Temir-Khan-Choura, we undertook the ascent of the Karanai, a lofty mountain some 7,000 feet above the level of the valley. From this elevation may be embraced the whole of hostile Daghestan. The distance to be gone over was twenty-four verst, two-thirds of which is open to carriages. We started with the

same escort as before; for, independently of the honour of the thing, it was here a question of security. We were about to partake of an excellent *déjeuner*, at a considerable elevation, beneath the very beards of the enemy; but the said enemy might easily misconstrue our intentions.

"At the point where the route became impracticable for carriages, we found led horses on which to continue the ascent, and a droschky with three horses to conduct the Princess Wittgenstein to the summit. On each side of the immense equestrian cavalcade a battalion of Grenadiers guarded our two flanks, and advanced in a parallel direction with ourselves. The road we followed was steep, but unbroken; it was an immense prairie rising gradually to the apex. In less than an hour we attained it. There awaited us a view surpassingly grand, and one which painting is powerless to render. In the extreme distance, half hidden by clouds, rose the central chain of Daghestan, covered with eternal snows; at our feet lay the valley, the scene of so many obstinate combats. After a tedious ascent, we reached the summit of Karanai, seven thousand feet above the level of the sea. A tent had been erected for our reception. Here we refreshed ourselves, and drank to the health

of the Emperor, the soldiers amusing themselves with dancing and kindred diversions. Although our ascent had been tedious and difficult, our descent was perhaps more so. Each man had to lead his horse and coax him down the steep declivity. The droschky of the Princess Wittgenstein had been dragged to the summit by the sturdy troops of our escort, but it was not safe to attempt to convey her Highness down the mountain sides by the same means. A sedan was formed of the muskets of the soldiers, and on this the Princess was carried until the mountain roads became less steep, when she was allowed to avail herself of the droschky again, and we to mount our horses. Before returning to Temir-Khan-Choura we visited one of those lonely fortresses so numerous in this region, garrisoned by a battalion of infantry. It was a perfect military convent secluded from the outward world. The troops stationed in it, could not venture 100 paces from the trenches without exposing themselves to the greatest danger. We ourselves had to keep up a constant discharge of fire-arms to prevent a surprise, which the military outposts are here continually exposed to.

"Temir-Khan-Choura is an entirely new town, and the head-quarters



of General the Prince Orbéliane. Recently very great additions have been made to the city, in the shape of a well-planted public garden, residency, government offices, commodious barracks, and other military establishments. The streets have been widened and so many improvements have been made, that when the Caucasus shall have been thoroughly subdued, there can be little doubt that it will assume an important position. The Prince Bariatinsky was detained here two days inspecting various public works. On the morning of the third day, we set out towards Dachlagar, which we reached towards evening. During the whole day we travelled with marvellous rapidity across a gently undulating plain, and as we dashed along we were greatly amused at the wonderful feats of horsemanship performed by the horsemen who escorted us. We journeyed on in this way till we reached Derwent, where the Prince was very heartily received. The day after our arrival he was invited by the town to a banquet, and numerous entertainments were given in his honour. The whole of the route to be traversed by the Prince was brilliantly illuminated with naphtha and Bengal fires. I will not go into details as regards the *salons* or arrangements for the banquet, but will simply

call attention to a *derbaz*,—a room fitted up after the Persian fashion by an officer of engineers, who seemed to have given his whole soul to its decoration. Floor and walls were entirely covered with superb Persian carpets of various and harmonious colours. Cushions embroidered in gold, silver, and gorgeous silks, were dispersed about the chamber; and ingeniously grouped trophies of arms sparkled on every side.

"We continued our journey the following day through a drizzling rain, that covered the country with a dense mist. It was however but a repetition of the same numerous escort—Cossacks of the Don and the native militia; a troop of these last, colours flying, opened the march, and the others rushed to and fro on each flank. The aspect of the country was much the same as that through which we had passed during the preceding days. On the right were lofty hills, here and there broken up by the torrents caused by the late rains. About mid-day we reached the banks of the Samour, one of the most turbulent rivers in the Caucasus. It is upwards of three versts (about six miles) wide, and in the spring, when the snow from the mountains is thawed, it carries everything before it. At the time of our visit, however, it was almost

dry, its stony bed being only intersected here and there with numerous shallow streams of water. Great precautions had been taken to ensure the safety of our caravan; at each arm of this impetuous stream were stationed, below each ford, a party of Tartars, immersed to their waists, and ready to lend assistance should it be needed. Their zeal was fortunately not put to the test; all reached the opposite side in safety.

"It was night when we arrived at Kausary, and on the following morning at dawn we again started on our route, and had not journeyed far before we were overtaken by a fall of snow. Happily we had but a short distance to journey, and in less than an hour arrived at Kauba, where we were to pass the night. The following day our route lay across the steppes, and, notwithstanding a violent wind blowing from the Caspian sea, the shores of which were distant some four or five versts, the rapidity of our course was not diminished. Night had already closed in as we approached Bakou, at which our travels were to end. The morning after our arrival, we made an excursion to the eternal fires some thirty miles distant. I doubt much whether the disciples of Zoroaster ever found a locality more propitious for the exercise of their



THE DESCENT OF THE KARANAI.

religion. I will not bid farewell to Bakou without mentioning the Palace of the Ancient Khans, and the Mosque in the neighbourhood. I was much struck with the delicacy of its details, and with the richness and originality of its ornamentation. Neither ought I to pass unnoticed the citadel, from the centre of which rises an immense tower, known by the name of the Maiden Tower. These fortifications, which carry one back to the middle ages, are anterior to the palace of the Khans. I will also mention the ruins to be perceived beneath the waters of the sea, bearing, as they do, evidence that modern Bakou succeeded to a town submerged at some far distant period by volcanic agency."

In a future number we intend continuing our illustrations from M. Blanchard's sketches, with much interesting matter appertaining to them.

**FIGHT BETWEEN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN SAILORS.**—Cape journals inform us that between the sailors belonging to her Majesty's ship *Castor* and the sailors belonging to some Russian corvettes, lying in Simon's Bay, about 120 in number, a quarrel arose, which ended in a

fight. They fought with staves and stones, and the whole town was in an uproar. The English drove the Russians to their boats, and were punished by the magistrates therefore since they had commenced the quarrel.

**ABANDONED.**—A vessel, which had been abandoned by her crew, was cast ashore, a few days back, at Primelin, near Brest. She is of between 600 and 700 tons burthen, had a cargo of timber on board, and her mizenmast was lying on the deck. The inscription on her stern-board was nearly effaced, but the words *Virago* and "Bellast" could be made out.

**LEGISLATION IN THE NEW WORLD.**—In a letter from San Francisco of the 4th ult., we read:—"Really some of the Californian legislation is worthy of the dark ages. The members pass too much of their time squabbling with one another to enable them to attend to their duties. Within the last few days they had two fights in the house—one between two hon. members, and the other between an hon. member and a newspaper reporter, which going further than words extended to blows, and ended in bloody noses."

**DUELS NOT BATTLES.**—The *Paris Presse* dwells on the absurdity of members of a profession or corporation rendering a writer responsible for sarcastic remarks addressed in a collective shape; it thus expresses itself:—"An insult may dishonour a man, but it cannot seriously affect a group of men; the isolated individual is insulted and avenges himself, but the profession in group remains invulnerable, and disdains attacks which inflict no injury, since they are aimed at everybody. Fortunately, this collective susceptibility is of entirely modern origin. Otherwise the profession of comic author would have been impossible. Had the magistrates and doctors of former days been susceptible and intolerant, the *Plaideurs* of Racine and the *Malado Imaginaire* of Molière would never have been written. Racine would have been killed by Dandin, and Molière by Thomas Diafoirus. The idea alone is terrible. Let us also imagine the massacre of the innocents which would have been accomplished by the Jews, had they called out all the writers who depicted them as misers and usurers. Were this idea of collective susceptibility to be adopted, duels would swell into pitched battles, and the world would soon end from want of combatants."



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, NO. 75.

## RAISING THE WIND.

SINCE we last wrote, the House of Commons has adjourned over the Whitsuntide holidays, and met again. An attempt was made to induce Mr. Disraeli to consent to a prolongation of the holidays until Monday, the 5th of May, but without success. The Chancellor of the Exchequer pleaded "exigencies of public business," and so the House re-assembled on Friday. This was a ruse of the Right Hon. Gentleman. He knew but few members would come up for the Friday's sitting, and that with a small House he should be able to get into committee of supply early in the evening, and do a considerable business in the way of getting money, and the ruse was eminently successful, for the House got into supply at seven o'clock, passed all the remaining army estimates, and a considerable number of the "miscellaneous." All Governments like a small House for supply. A nice little family party of about forty members, or less, with about forty or fifty of "our men" about the House to run in at ring of division bell. With a full House the votes pass but slowly, and especially when the army or navy estimates are before the committee; for at least a third of the members are, in some way or other, connected with the services, and of course, every man so connected, from the general to the militia captain, has something to say—some arrangement to criticise, some grievance to complain about, some job in promotion to denounce, on such occasions. When the attendance has been large, we have known the committee to spend the greater part of an evening over one trivial vote; but when there are only forty or fifty members present, the astonished spectator in the gallery sees millions voted without a remark. But with the small House on Friday, there was one important vote which had a narrow escape—we allude to the salary of the "Privy Seal." The "Lord Privy Seal" has £2,000 a-year, and his duties are almost *nil*. We believe that he now and then has to place a seal upon some hot wax which a clerk has melted and laid before him, and even this laborious duty can be done by deputy. Before the break-up of the late Government, Mr. Ashford Wyse had a notice of motion on the paper for the abolition of this snug sinecure. At that time it was held by the Marquis of Clanricarde, and the notice was, perhaps, intended to afford an opportunity to the House to discuss that questionable appointment, as well as to secure the abolition of the place, for on the fall of the Government, the notice was removed; but there can be no doubt that the office is doomed.

## MR. WASHINGTON WILKS.

Before going into supply on Friday, the House had a question of "privilege" to settle; and however anxious the Government might be to get money, this important question must be first disposed of, for, by the rules of the House, questions of privilege take precedence of everything else. The case was this: Lately there were before a select committee of the House two railway bills—to wit, the "Caledonian" and the "North British." These two bills both had nearly the same object in view—namely, to make or complete a communication between Carlisle and Edinburgh; and the Carlisle people, anxious for competition across such an important country, wished that both bills should pass. But the committee refused to pass both, and rejected the North British; whereupon the Carlisle people were very wrathful; and, as angry, disappointed people are generally suspicious, all sorts of rumours were flying abroad about the reason why this bill was rejected. The reason seemed to calm people to be obvious—namely, that the committee did not think these two lines are necessary; but the Carlisle people were not calm, and could not and would not believe in this reason. There must be something wrong—some corrupt motive—and at length these suspicions took the definite form of a direct accusation against Mr. Clive, the chairman of the committee. He was the sinner. He was a large stockholder, and had secured the rejection of this bill to 'put money in his purse.' On the face of it, this charge is as improbable as the publication of it is wrong. Before consenting to serve on a railway committee, every member has to declare that he has no interest whatever in the questions that are to come before it; and we are not at all disposed to think that Mr. Clive would make a false declaration, and much less that he would prostitute his office to serve his own pecuniary advantages. However, Mr. Washington Wilks, editor of the "Carlisle Examiner," thought otherwise, and hurled this heavy charge against Mr. Clive through the columns of his paper. Now Mr. Clive had two courses open to him: He might bring his action for libel, or he might complain to the House. At first he was disposed to take the first-named course; but by the highest authority in the House, he was advised to take the second, on the ground that not only was Mr. Clive's character impeached, but the character of the House. And so, on complaint being made, orders were issued that Mr. Washington Wilks should be

## SUMMONED TO THE BAR.

And on Friday evening he made his appearance with the Serjeant-at-Arms at his side. "The bar" is a brass pole about the thickness of a window curtain pole. On ordinary occasions this bar is shut up like a telescope; but when any one is "called to the bar" it is drawn across the House. "Above the bar" is the most sacred part of the House: none but members, the three clerks of the table, and the Serjeant-at-Arms, can go there. "Below the Bar" is somewhat less sacred, for there the messengers of the House can go, and the men who manage the ventilation and warming. It was below the Bar that Mr. Washington Wilks stood. Mr. Wilks did not cut a very good figure before the honourable House. No doubt his case, all refracted and magnified by the passion and excitement which prevailed at Carlisle, looked very much altered when seen in its real shape and character in the House. In his study at Carlisle it loomed large in the mist and fog with which disappointment and anger enveloped it, but in the House it dwindled down to its natural size, and, to say the truth, was wondrous small. There was no alternative but to commit Mr. Wilks; for, though the House gave him every chance of escape, he would take none. "Will you retract the charge?" "No." "Will you prove it?" "No!" Then of course he must be taken into custody. And so it was resolved, and since Friday he has been

## IMPRISONED.

But, excitable reader, do not be alarmed. "The duration" is not a vile one. It is not in a Neapolitan dungeon nor a Newgate condemned cell—but in a comfortable room where he can read and meditate and forge his thunder-bolts as well as if he were in his study at Carlisle. Nor need he be alone, for his friends have access to him. And he can also, within due bounds, eat, drink, and be merry—"and smoke" for you know long-haired bearded Radical editors are all smokers. "Well, we hardly know what to say about that. According to parliamentary rule, we should say not. But you know many a cigar is smoked in railway carriages, although, as every one knows, it is clearly against the rule. Mr. Wilks's "prison" is not an uncomfortable den. It is situated upstairs, not far from the Committee Room corridor. It is papered, neatly furnished, sufficiently large, and, moreover, from its lofty position, we should say it is very salubrious. But even to this comfortable chamber the prisoner is not closely confined, for he has a neat bed-room adjoining, and, when inclined, he can walk, in company with an officer of the House, on the broad terrace by the side of the river. On Sunday he was permitted to go to the Abbey to worship—for of course our Protestant constitution, while it allows the imprisonment of an offender, carefully provides that nothing shall be done to endanger the interests of his soul. Comfortably, however, as he is provided for in his duration, he does not much like the prospect of being imprisoned until the end of the session. He has also probably counted the cost; for though the House of Commons has no power to inflict a fine, the official fees are heavy, and are added to every day while the imprisonment lasts. And so he has already taken steps to regain his freedom. "The Latin line," which every schoolboy knows, says we cross the sea, but do not change the mind; and, as a rule, this may be true; but the rule admits of exception, for change of place and circumstances do not unfrequently most completely change the mind. For instance, at the bar of the House, Mr. Wilks would neither retract, nor apologise, nor prove. On that he was resolutely bent. He

would go to Newgate first, if necessary. But now, after four or five days' incarceration, his mind is already changed, and he has instructed his friend, Mr. Milner Gibson, to present a petition to the Honourable House, in which he both retracts and apologises. Nor can any man blame him. He was in the wrong, and no honourable man should be ashamed to confess a mistake. And moreover, if he is ambitious to obtain the honours of martyrdom, there are clearly none to be got here. Martyrs' crowns are scarce articles in England in the nineteenth century. Some gentlemen whom we know have now and then laid hold of what they thought to be a martyr's crown, but the loud laughter of the spectators soon convinced them that it was nothing more than a fool's cap.

## REPENTS, AND IS DISCHARGED.

On Tuesday Mr. Wilks petitioned for his discharge, but his retraction not being considered satisfactory, he had to amend it, and on Wednesday another was presented, which was accepted, and Mr. Wilks was set free. The fees which he had to pay amounted to £12 10s.

## SLOUGH.

Notwithstanding it was known that Mr. Washington Wilks was to be brought to the bar, and even shrewdly suspected that Mr. Disraeli would be brought to book for his speech at Slough, we had, as we have said, a small gathering of members on the re-assembling of Parliament. Members had rushed off to their country seats to spend their Whitsuntide holidays, and they would not sacrifice three days of country air and country pleasures at this glorious season merely to secure one night of legislation. But on Monday the House was much fuller, and especially in the early part of the evening. The cause of this early gathering was a report which had been industriously circulated, that Palmerston too meant to have a "go in"—(this phrase is quite Parliamentary, in the lobby)—with Disraeli, about his speech at Slough. We say that this report was industriously circulated, and we mean by this that it was circulated industriously by authority, in order that the great Parliamentary chief might be well supported and backed up in the attack which he was about to make. How this was managed it is difficult to say, perhaps as difficult to the uninitiated as it is to discover where the wind originates. But it is always so. Whenever anything important is coming on, which from its nature does not admit of a formal "whip," it is always in some mysterious manner made known; and really sometimes it seems as if it were promulgated by electricity, for every body seems to know it in a moment. Of course it was not intended that there should be a division. It was not for that the attendance of members was requested, but merely to make a show, and to cheer; and at five o'clock, when the Noble Lord entered the House, it bore a most formidable appearance. But we cannot say that the enthusiasm was very great when he arrived. The Whigs behind him cheered him, but the gentlemen below the gangway did but faintly echo the cheers of the Noble Lord's more zealous partisans. Ah! that gang below the gangway! it is a great fact and an awkward fact, and is destined to play no insignificant part in the future. All it wants is a recognised leader, and a firm bond of union; at present it has no leader, and its only bond of union is discontent. If it had but a leader and some rallying cry, it would be ten times more powerful than it is. At present it can only carry on a sort of guerrilla warfare. On Monday, during the set-to between "Dizzy" and "Pam" it seemed to take but little interest in what was going on, and sided with neither of the combatants. Nor did Gladstone, Graham, and Sidney Herbert. The last-named gentleman has been flitting about like a bird whose nest has been harried. He has no recognised place at present. He generally drops down anywhere on the Opposition side, but on this occasion we spied him below the gangway on the Conservative side. Graham perseveringly kept his eyes on the ceiling, as if he were tracing the carving on the oak panels, or counting the squares of glass in the artificial roof, and the while busily rubbing his face with the hook of his walking-stick. Gladstone's appearance immediately betrayed his feelings. There could be no doubt that he was deeply pained by what was going on, as were many others. He sat with his head thrown back and his hat brought forward so as to cover half of his face, only his mouth and chin being visible. But everybody who knows Gladstone, could see by the working of his mouth that neither the manner in which Palmerston renewed the attack, nor Disraeli's mode of defence, were according to his mind. The Right Hon. Gentleman, it appears, has been offered a place in the Conservative Government, and has refused. And the reason of his refusal, it is said, is certain family and friendly connections on the Opposition side, which he does not wish to break. This may be one reason, and one sufficiently strong for him to give it in answer to the request. But we have watched this eminent man for years, and we will venture to say that there is a deeper reason than that. Nobody can look at Gladstone when Disraeli is speaking, and especially when he is speaking in the random, wild manner in which he spoke on Monday night, but must, if he have any sagacity, see that the Right Hon. Gentleman thoroughly dislikes the leader of the Conservative party. And is this to be wondered at? Are there two men in the universe more utterly unlike than these two? Select the two most antagonistic elements in creation and you will have an apt symbol of the natural antagonism that there is between two such minds. No! Gladstone will never join Disraeli, unless so stern a sense of duty should impel him, that he cannot avoid doing so. It is worthy of remark that Gladstone and Disraeli never fight. We have seen many a fierce passage of arms between Gladstone and Bethel, and between Palmerston and Disraeli, but we have seldom seen anything more than the slightest skirmish between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Gladstone. Our theory to account for this fact is—that Gladstone so thoroughly dislikes the Chancellor that he will not even fight with him, and that Disraeli stands so much in awe of Gladstone's weapons that he gladly keeps clear of them. But to return to the fight. Well, we have not much to say upon it. It was, on the whole, a poor affair, although it was expected to be something tremendous. Nobody gained much *éclat*, and it was clear that everybody felt relieved when it was over, and the sober, serious old Conservatives, we happen to know, felt especially relieved. "Call you this man a fit leader of the Conservative party?" (an old Conservative is reported to have said). "Why, he is a Will-o'-the-Wisp; look what a Slough he has led you into now." And this feeling is not an uncommon one amongst the older Conservatives. When Parliament broke up for the holidays, Disraeli's position was a proud one. And, with care and prudence, reticence and courtesy, might have been impregnable, at least for this session; but he has evidently damaged it materially by his Buckinghamshire exhibition. And there are rumours afloat already that the Liberal chiefs, encouraged by this escapade, and deeply exasperated by the false charges which Disraeli have brought against them, are already meditating another assault upon the Government, and bets are offered that even now the Ministry will not last out the session.

## CHANGES IN THE MINISTRY.

THE vacancy at the Board of Control is at length filled up, and the Ministry is complete. Lord Stanley becomes President of the Indian Board, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton succeeds him as Secretary of State for the Colonies, and a Hertfordshire election is to be risked. New writs have been moved for in the House of Commons for that county, and for King's Lynn. Sir E. B. Lytton's address to his constituents has appeared. He declares that the old landmarks of party are much effaced, and need not be revived. He calls upon the electors to return him, in order that it may appear how much a Conservative policy can promote contentment and prosperity. No opposition will be offered to Lord Stanley's re-election for King's Lynn. At one time it was thought that Mr. Gladstone would have taken office under Lord Derby, and there seems to be no doubt that the offer was made; and it is said that Mr. Gladstone only declined it from considerations of private feeling.

MR. HERWALD WAKE, the gallant leader of the defence of Arrah, arrived by the last mail from Calcutta on sick leave.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 28.  
HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

On the motion of Mr. G. CLIVE, Mr. Washington Wilks, the proprietor and publisher of the "Carlisle Examiner," was called to the bar, and interrogated with reference to a charge made in that paper upon Mr. Clive, as Chairman of a railway committee. Mr. Wilks's answer proving unsatisfactory, it was resolved, *nem. con.*, upon the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the article containing the charge was a false and scandalous libel upon the chairman and other members of the committee; that Washington Wilks, the proprietor and publisher of the paper, had been guilty of a breach of the privileges of the House; and that he be committed to the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms.

## LORD JOHN IN OPPOSITION.

On the order for going into a Committee of Supply, Lord J. RUSSELL drew the attention of the House to certain statements contained in a speech delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Slough. Adverting to one statement, that, when the present Government came into office, the question of peace or war was a question of hourly consideration, Lord John asked upon what ground this alarming intimation was given? He could not learn from Lord Clarendon that our relations with France were in so critical a state when the late Government quitted office; and he wondered, if they were, why no preparations had been made to meet such an emergency. Mr. Disraeli had also asserted that there had been an endeavour to engage Sardinia and Naples in hostilities, with a view of upsetting the present Government, an assertion likewise requiring explanation. Again, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had asked whether we should pursue in India a policy of extermination; whether no mercy should be shown to the inhabitants of India; and whether we should rule there by force alone. He (Lord J. Russell) wished to know by whom such a policy had been indicated, and denied that it had been the policy of the late Government. In suggesting what would have been the consequence of a vote adverse to the Government upon a late occasion, that members would have to defend their vote on the hustings, Mr. Disraeli had implied a threat of what Mr. Burke called a "penal dissolution;" and he (Lord John) thought it ought not to be the footing upon which the relations between the Crown and the members of that House should stand, that the Minister, when thwarted, should advise Her Majesty to dissolve Parliament, or hold out the threat as a means of coercing the House.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied that, with regard to the state of our relations with France at the moment when the late Government quitted office, he wondered that Lord John, instead of having recourse to Lord Clarendon, had not consulted Lord Palmerston, who had declined to answer a question put to him in that House, and, at the same time, conveyed the impression that our relations with France were in such a delicate state, that the answering that question alone might decide the question of peace or war. Those relations were now entirely changed, and there was at this moment a greater approximation between the two Courts in tone and temper. He denied that he had said that there had been an attempt in the House of Commons to upset the present Government by encouraging a war between Sardinia and Naples. What he did say was, that there were persons who were endeavouring to do this. As to India, what he had said was, that the Government were not for a policy of confiscation, but of a discriminating amnesty, and a respect for the religion, the property, and the rights and customs of the different people of India. He denied that he had made any declaration that could be interpreted as a threat that if the majority on a late motion had gone against the Government, Parliament would have been dissolved. What he had said was, that the members of the Government confidently anticipated the sanction of their constituents and the country.

After some further discussion in which, Mr. Rich, Sir G. Lewis, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Collier, Mr. Whiteside, and Mr. Griffith took part, the subject was allowed to drop.

## AN ARMY GRIEVANCE.

SIR DE LACY EVANS moved an address praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to take into consideration the hardship experienced by captains of cavalry and infantry who, having been returned to the non-effective list by order of Government at the termination of the late war in 1856, and being replaced on the effective strength of the army on the breaking out of the war in the East in 1857, find themselves posted to regiments in relatively inferior rank to lieutenants who have obtained the rank of captain, by purchase or otherwise, during the intermediate year of peace.

General PELL explained that it was impossible to make an exception with reference to these officers; and

SIR DE LACY EVANS withdrew his motion. General PELL having replied to certain questions put by Mr. Monsell, the House went into Committee of Supply upon the Army Estimates, and upon those for the Civil Services, when various votes were agreed to, after much discussion.

The remaining orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, MAY 31.  
HOUSE OF LORDS.

## THE OATHS BILL.

The House of Lords resumed on Monday, when the reasons given by the House of Commons for disagreeing from their Lordships' amendments to the Oaths Bill were considered; the 5th clause of the original bill having been read at the table.

The Earl of LUCAN proposed an amendment empowering both Houses of Parliament to modify the form of oath at present required by a special resolution. The House of Commons could thus order the portion of the oath to which the Jews object to be omitted. He had brought forward the amendment without consultation with any party, and, believing that the time had arrived when the question must be settled, he proposed it as a compromise. Since 1833 ten bills for removing the Jewish Disabilities had been sent up to their Lordships; the majorities by which they had been carried had constantly increased, and it was impolitic longer to resist a principle so strongly supported.

EARL STANHOPE, confessing to a change of opinion on the subject, expressed his readiness to support any proposition for the admission of Jews to the House of Commons, but thought that object would be better attained by restoring the clause originally introduced into the bill than through the amendment proposed by Lord Lucan.

The Earl of CLANCATY opposed the amendment.

The Earl of DERRY commented upon the reasons brought up from the Lower House, which he believed were not calculated to convince any one who had listened unconverted to the arguments adduced by Lord Lyndhurst in bringing forward his bill. The amendment now proposed involved some novel principle which could not be accepted without longer consideration than had as yet been practicable. He declared his intention of voting against it, but without pledging himself to reject every compromise which, by allowing each House to determine the formalities of admission for their own members, might close the long-pending dispute between the two branches of the Legislature.

EARL GREY suggested that the further discussion of the subject should be postponed for a fortnight.

After some further discussion, their Lordships divided on the motion for adjourning the discussion, which was negatived by a majority of 80 to 68-12.

The Earl of LUCAN, after a few observations, now consented to withdraw his amendment.

LORD LYNDHURST moved that the House should not insist on those amendments to the bill with which the Commons had disagreed.

The motion was opposed by the LORD CHANCELLOR.

EARL GRANVILLE suggested that the resolution should not be pressed, but a new bill introduced, giving effect to the compromise which, it appeared, the Government were willing to adopt.

LORD LYNDHURST consented, and withdrew his motion. A formal vote, insisting upon the amendments in the Oaths Bill, was thereupon agreed to.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE CAGLIARI QUESTION.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated, in reply to Mr. Headlam, that the release of the engineers, Watt and Park, had been perfectly unconditional; that the question of compensation was still pending; and the Sardinian subjects among the crew of the steamer were still kept in prison by the Neapolitan authorities.

## MR. WILKS'S CASE.

MR. M. GIBSON presented an apologetic petition from Mr. Wilks, the proprietor of the "Carlisle Examiner," in custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms, which, on the motion of the Right Hon. Member, was ordered to be taken into consideration on the following evening.

## BUSINESS OF THE SESSION.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, it was agreed that Government orders of the day were to take precedence on every Thursday during the residue of the session.

## WHIGS IN OPPOSITION.

On the order for going into supply, Lord PALMERSTON rose to remark that in the speech made by Mr. Disraeli before his constituents last week, he had stated that the questions of peace or war was a question not of weeks or days, but of hours. As far as he (Lord Palmerston) was informed, that statement, as regarded our relations with France, was utterly groundless. Had it been true, and had it been



necessary to make it known, it should have been published in that House on the army or navy estimates. Such a statement was most impudently on the part of a Minister of the Crown, and calculated to disturb the commercial as well as the political relations of the two nations. He called upon Mr. Disraeli to explain this assertion, as well as that intrigues had been carried on to involve Sardinia in war with Naples for party objects, an assertion he (Lord Palmerston) utterly denied. With reference to India, Mr. Disraeli had been guilty of a libel upon her Majesty's late advisers; he had accused them of Lord Canning's intending to act upon a policy of unmitigated vengeance and massacre. In speaking of the state of parties in this country, Mr. Disraeli had talked of a cabal on the opposite side of the House, and he should like to know to whom Mr. Disraeli alluded when he spoke of intrigues and cabals. Moreover, he wished to know who the foreign intriguers were who cabaled with the late Government to eject their successors—a charge he entirely repudiated.

Mr. DISRAELI, remarking that he found himself in the position of M. de Pons, who, having fought an antagonist, found himself opposed by fresh adversaries, repeated the explanations already given to a similar attack on Friday night. He enlarged upon the difficult contingencies bequeathed by the late Administration, and which, he contended, the present ministry had dealt with skillfully and successfully. Explaining and vindicating his expressions regarding the recent conduct of the House of Commons, he declared that among all their political differences members of every party had consented to one conclusion—that of refusing to be longer made victims and tools of an absolute oligarchy.

Sir G. GREY observed that Mr. Disraeli had been obliged to explain away his indiscreet observations at the Slough dinner. He contrasted various passages in that address with the interpretation since given to them by the speaker, whom he accused of resorting to unworthy shifts, and declared that the proceeding was humiliating to the Government.

Sir J. FARRINGTON defended Mr. Disraeli, broadly stating that, in his belief, the passage in the speech at Slough regarding our relations with France when the late Government quitted office was substantially correct. He was in a position and at liberty to say that on more than one occasion the late French Ambassador, Count Persigny, did remonstrate against the policy of this country, and did state, in plain terms, that if it was not changed it would be impossible for friendly relations between the two countries to continue.

Lord J. RUSSELL insisted that the explanations of Mr. Disraeli were unsatisfactory.

After some remarks from Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Kinglake, and Mr. S. Fitzgerald, the subject dropped.

The House then went into committee of supply, and proceeded with the discussion of some further votes belonging to the Miscellaneous Civil Service Estimates.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 2.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### MR. DISRAELI'S SPEECH AT SLOUGH.

The Earl of CLARENDON called attention to the speech recently made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Slough. He alluded first to the statement that when the present Government entered office war with France was not a question of weeks or days, but of hours. For that statement Lord Clarendon declared there was not a particle of foundation, and he gave it an unqualified denial. He then declared the policy of the late Ministry in introducing the Conspiracy Bill, not at the dictation of the French Government, but by the advice of the law officers of the Crown, for the purpose of remedying an evident defect in the English law; and the object and principle of the bill were strongly advocated by Lord Derby himself when in opposition. Lord Clarendon did not wish to deprive the present Government of any credit for its conduct in the affair of the Chamber; but he reminded the House that the late Ministry, up to a late period, was kept in ignorance of the real state of the case. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would have done well not to indulge in a "song of triumph" till he had ascertained whether the Neapolitan Government would consent to an arbitration, and grant the demanded indemnity. The allusions in the speech to a policy of "massacre and confiscation" Lord Clarendon denounced as an ungenerous attack on Lord Canning, whose courage, ability, and moderation he eulogised, denouncing the repeated official misrepresentations of his policy in India as calculated to confirm the worst opinions of the enemies of this country, by representing it as habitually cruel, unprincipled, and despotic. Lord Clarendon concluded his speech without proposing any motion.

The Earl of DERBY defended his colleague. The allusion to the danger of war with France he explained only meant that peace between the two countries was endangered, when the present Government took office, by the impossibility of passing the Conspiracy Bill; and he asked whether the peril of a war with France, in case Mr. Milner Gibson's motion were carried, was not held out to deter members of the House of Commons from voting for it. His Lordship compared the results of the action of the present Ministry, in the case of the Cagliari, with the very slight effect of Lord Clarendon's interposition. Lord Malmesbury had obtained the unconditional release of the English prisoners, and had made a demand for indemnification, which would be followed up. Lord Derby concluded by saying that he would not defend every phrase of the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but though some of its language and expressions might deserve a passing notice from those who disapproved them, he thought more had been made of the incident than was consistent with the dignity of either House of Parliament.

Earl GRANVILLE justified the notice that had been taken of the speech, and characterised the reference to the budget as vainglorious, since the financial policy of the Government had only been the negative one of not "muddling away money in paying debts," but postponing liabilities they had better have met in a bolder manner.

The Earl of MALMESBURY declared that Mr. Disraeli's statement as to the political relation of France and England when the present Government came into office was correct. "When," said his Lordship, "when I saw the French Ambassador, upon my taking office, I found that he regarded the position of affairs as one of the gravest danger, and he never saw me without expressing his belief in distinct terms that we had arrived at a crisis of most imminent danger." Lord Malmesbury concluded by a significant reference to Lord Palmerston's bellicose speech at the Mansion House, some time ago, which, he said, surpassed in indiscretion anything that had been complained of in Mr. Disraeli's speech.

After a few words from Lord Stanley of Alderly, the subject was allowed to drop.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE RIGHT OF SEARCH DIFFICULTY.

Mr. LINDSAY having inquired if it was true that several merchant vessels belonging to the United States, engaged in the trade with Havannah, or with the West Coast of Africa, had been fired into, boarded, searched, and detained by British cruisers; and, if so, by what authority, or under whose instructions, did the commanders of these ships so act—

Mr. S. FITZGERALD replied that no official information on the subject had reached the Government. The commanders of all vessels engaged in cruising against slavers had been instructed to exercise their duties with all possible caution.

#### MR. WILKS.

A petition from Mr. Washington Wilks having been presented to the House, retracting the imputation of corruption, and praying for release, Mr. M. GIBSON moved that Mr. Wilks be accordingly discharged from the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Mr. ROEBUCK considered the retraction contained in that petition insufficient. The accusation brought against a committee of that House had alleged partiality as well as corruption, of which charges only the latter was withdrawn.

Mr. CLAY (in whose hands Mr. Clive had placed his case) also deemed the retraction insufficient.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL concurred in this view. Considering that the retraction in Mr. Wilks's petition was guarded and limited, and the apology illusory, he moved, as an amendment, that the order for the consideration of the petition be discharged.

This amendment, after further debate, was agreed to, with the understanding that Mr. Wilks might, if he thought fit, present another petition, containing a fuller and less restricted retraction of the charges.

#### ARMY ADMINISTRATION—A MINISTER OF WAR.

Captain VIVIAN called attention to the necessity of more clearly defining the responsibility and duties of the various military departments, and moved a resolution setting forth that although the recent consolidation of the different departments of Ordnance, Commissariat, and Secretary at War had to a certain extent improved the general administration of military affairs, a divided responsibility still existed; and that, in order to promote greater efficiency, the departments of the Horse Guards and War Office should be placed under the control of one responsible minister.

General PELL, in the course of a technical reply, contended that although the present military system of the country was possibly imperfect in theory, it nevertheless practically worked well. Improvements might be effected, and were in course of accomplishment, on matters of detail; but he could not concur in the latter portion of the resolution.

Lord A. V. TEMPEST, Mr. Horsman, and Mr. B. Johnston supported the motion; which was opposed by Sir F. Smith.

Mr. S. HERBERT contended that, by uniting the departments of Commander-in-Chief and War Minister, the army would practically be often placed under the control of a civilian. At present, though there was a division of management, the Secretary of State was fully responsible to Parliament.

Further observations, opposing the motion, were offered by Colonel North and Sir W. Coddington.

Lord PALMERSTON objected to the proposal for merging the War Office and the Horse Guards, and showed reasons for preferring to have the army under the control of a minister of State rather than entrust it, as suggested, to a board on the model of that which presided at the Admiralty.

Captain VIVIAN having replied, the motion was carried by 106 to 104.

#### THE SUEZ CANAL.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved a resolution that in the opinion of the House the power and influence of this country ought not to be used in order to induce the Sultan to withhold his assent to the project for cutting a canal across the Isthmus of Suez, a scheme which, he contended, was calculated to benefit the world.

Mr. GRIFFITH, who supported the resolution, proposed an addition by way of amendment, that in any course which the House might sanction in furtherance of the construction of the canal, care should be taken that the despotic powers of the Egyptian government should not be allowed to be made use of by the promoters of the project to obtain the required labour from the "Fellahs" at an inadequate remuneration by those compulsory means familiar to that government, so as to produce the effects of slavery under the guise of paid labour.

Mr. STEPHENSON pointed out the physical difficulties in the way of forming the canal, which, owing to the two seas being upon a dead level, would have no current, and would be in fact a ditch. In his opinion, it would be a most abortive undertaking; and Mr. Rendal, Mr. Maclean, and every British engineer of eminence, agreed with him.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD opposed the motion, partly on political grounds, and partly because he believed that the proposed canal might, under many possible contingencies, actually interpose a barrier between England and the East. The opening of this canal would place other European nations nearer India than ourselves, and oblige us to observe precautions and maintain armaments with which we could now dispense. That the project had obtained no support in England, the great centre of commerce and enterprise, was, he contended, sufficient indication of its commercial merits.

Lord PALMERSTON adhered to the opinion he had more than once enunciated, that the Suez Canal scheme was one of the greatest bubbles ever presented to English capitalists. It might not be impracticable; but he was convinced that it would never be remunerative. The Turkish Government were on their own part strongly opposed to the project, and aware of its disadvantages; for, among other consequences from the completion of the work, the dissolution of the integrity of the Turkish empire might result. The frontier of Egypt had been fortified and sealed up in various directions, and the proposed canal would create a barrier across the isthmus of Suez. England was herself deeply interested in the defeat of an enterprise which might place the nearest route to India in the hands of an enemy.

Mr. J. C. EWART declared that the scheme had been pronounced a bubble in Liverpool.

Mr. GLADSTONE protested against the improper and illegitimate employment of political influences to frustrate a commercial enterprise. In opposing the project, the English government had placed itself in antagonism to the general opinion of Europe. He much questioned the existence of any prospective peril to the integrity either of the Turkish or British empires from the construction of the Suez canal; and in any case deprecated any interference, on political grounds, with the execution of a commercial undertaking.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER remarked that the resolution seemed to infer the fact that the executive government had employed some improper influence to prevent the Sultan from granting a concession for the Suez canal. Of this supposed fact no evidence had been afforded. If the motion were adopted, it would imply an approval of the project, and he called upon the House to pause before it sanctioned an enterprise which high authorities had declared to be delusive, if not pernicious. The commercial advantages of the scheme were problematical, while the political dangers it would involve were real.

Lord J. RUSSELL observed that the commercial questions and the engineering questions might be left to take care of themselves. As a political and national question, he maintained that the opening of a more accessible channel of intercourse with India must be beneficial to England, either in peace or war.

After some remarks from Mr. Drummond, Mr. Bright, and Sir J. Elphinstone, and a reply from Mr. Roebuck, the resolution was negatived by a majority of 290 to 62.

#### CHURCH RATES.

Sir J. TRELAWNY moved the third reading of the Church Rate Abolition Bill.

Mr. DRUMMOND moved the adjournment of the debate.

After some discussion, the motion for adjournment was negatived, on a division, by a majority of 150 to 103—47.

The opponents of the Bill, however, renewed the motion for adjourning, which was ultimately agreed to.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### MR. WILKS DISCHARGED.

Another petition from Mr. Wilks was brought up, in which he "unreservedly retracts every charge of corruption, and any imputation arising therefrom;" and "regrets that the retraction already made by him in a petition to your Honourable House should not have been understood, as it was intended, in this sense."

Mr. MILNER GIBSON again moved Mr. Wilks's discharge from the custody of the Serjeant-at-Arms in the usual form, and on payment of the fees.

After some remarks from Mr. Clive in his own vindication, and from Mr. Walpole, who declared that no imputation could rest against Mr. Clive, the motion was agreed to.

#### PROPERTY QUALIFICATION BILL.

The adjourned debate on going into committee on this Bill was resumed. Mr. BENTINCK moved that the bill be committed this day six months. He considered a property qualification essential to the construction of the House, but he based his opposition to the measure because it should form part of a reform bill, and that the House ought not to be called upon to express an opinion on a partial measure of this kind. If the House repealed the property qualification it would be necessary for them to abolish also freedom of arrest, which was adopted to prevent trickery. And if they did that, they would make that House a refuge for bankrupts and disreputable characters.

Mr. KER SEYMOUR replied that the practical working of no qualification for Scotland had been to produce representatives as respectable, wealthy, and talented as any who represented England.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND said the abolition of property qualification, to be comprehensive, should touch the House of Lords, by avoiding pauper peers and the abolition of voting by proxy. This measure was an attempt to separate political power from wealth, which, if adopted, would end in the universal destruction of property.

Sir G. C. LEWIS considered the real security for the social condition of Members of Parliament was to be found in the ordeal they had to undergo for gaining the suffrage of the House. The substantial qualification of members would be wholly untouched by this measure.

After some further discussion, in which Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Knightly, Sir W. Farquhar, and Mr. Henley took part, the House divided; when 222 members voted for the committee of the bill, and 109 against it.

Accordingly the House went into committee; and after some irrelevant discussion, clause 1 (which comprises the whole bill) was agreed to.

The Medical Practitioners Bill was read a second time.

THE SECRET OF LORD PALMERSTON'S DEFEAT.—A correspondent of the "Record" explains the failure of the Cardwell resolution. "It is lamentable to reflect that the only man who, not long ago, possessed the national confidence, and who yet seems to be the only person in many respects capable of presiding over the destinies of this great empire, should be so devoid of those great maxims of Divine truth which alone can ensure a safe course, or conduct the hoary head to a happy and honourable close. When the recent debate began no one, perhaps, had a fairer prospect of a large majority, and return to power, than Lord Palmerston. But there was a 'worm at the root,' and the Sunday meeting at Cambridge House blasted the fair prospect presented to his view. It is a solemn lesson for all."

JUDGMENT IN THE SHREWSBURY PEERAGE CASE.—Judgment has at length been given in the House of Lords on the claim of Earl Talbot to the earldom of Shrewsbury, which, involving as it does the possession of large estates, has obtained for this long-litigated case a vast amount of interest, particularly amongst the aristocracy. Earl Talbot's claim has been strenuously opposed by Lord Edward Howard, the second son of the Duke of Norfolk, and by the Princess Doria Pamphili and the Duchess of Sora, claiming as heiresses-at-law of the sixteenth earl. The report of the Committee of Privileges is, however, that Earl Talbot has made out his claim.

PLAYGROUNDS FOR LITTLE COCKNEYS.—A dinner on behalf of the Playground and General Recreation Society took place last night at the London Tavern, Mr. Charles Dickens in the chair. The object of this new society is to provide open spaces for playgrounds for the poorer children in populous places, and by this means to remove them as much as possible from the dens and alleys in which they are at present "cubed, cribbed, confined."

FISHERMAN RACES.—The winners at Ascot were, for the Gold Vase—Sedbury, Fisherman, Longrange. Of the Ascot Derby—Toxophilite, and Montmore, Knight of Kars. For the Royal Hunt Cup—Hesperithusa, Kestrel, Scribbler.

## THE WELCOME GUEST.

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## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1858.

## JEWISH DISABILITIES.

We are aware that this subject excites no very animated interest in the country, but there is at least a chance of a compromise being effected about it; and, as several important principles are involved in the result, it is our duty to do all we can to make that result a satisfactory one.

Our own view of the matter is very simple. We are by no means anxious to see Jews in the House of Commons, but we dislike the present special mode of keeping them out. We would let them in—not from affection, nor from any zeal for mere liberal abstractions—but simply on the principle that we think them excluded in a way which is irregular. The oath was not directed against them by our ancestors, and may be said to exclude them only incidentally. On what ground, then, is it specially employed against the class at present? The *onus* of showing this lies on the exclusionists, and we cannot but think that they make a poor hand of it.

For instance, they tell us with perfect justice that Christianity is part of the law of the land. Well; but so is toleration. If our Christianity can permit a Jew to be landholder or a sheriff, it can, it seems, recognise him as part and parcel of the social state. But to be eligible for a member of Parliament is also an universal social privilege, and to step in at that particular point and stop your Jew, involves your proving that the House of Commons is more Christian than other parts of the Constitution. Why, however, should the House be esteemed more purely Christians than—say, for instance,—the City Corporation? It is Christian as consisting of individual Christians, but no more—not specially as a *body* in any way. The presence of a Jew or two would have the same effect there as in a ball-room. You could not say that every individual in such a case was a Christian, but still the assembly itself would be so; for such would be the character of the bulk—the mass—of its component parts. This seems to us to be the true view of the case. The House of Commons is an assembly of English citizens for political purposes. They bring their creed with them of course, but no special inquiry is made into that creed. The oath they take was established for a special political object; not to test their spiritual orthodoxy, but for purposes of which the exclusion of the Jew was not one. *Prima facie*, then, the Jew ought to be let in, unless you show some particular danger peculiar to his race which would accrue from his admission. Is he violently anti-Christian?—disloyal?—or what? If so, it may be proper to guard yourself against him by law; only that the necessity would show a very base state of feeling among your electoral bodies. A body sensible and honourable enough to be allowed to choose a member at all, ought by that fact to be presumed competent to judge of the character of an individual Jew. If you cannot trust them so far, why trust them with such such powers at all?

The Jewish cause has suffered somewhat from its own advocates. The late attempt to carry it by "dodges" must be pronounced wrong. By proceeding in the way of Bill, the House of Commons admitted that it could not carry its object without a law. To the creation of a law the consent of the Lords is necessary, and the Lords had a right to decline consenting if they pleased. When, therefore, Rothschild's name was put on a committee to confer with them, a palpable inconsistency was exhibited, to say nothing of the insult to the Upper House involved in the fact. And not less unreasonable was the proposal some time since to proceed in the Commons by mere resolution. That was inconsistent with the previous action of the House. It also threatened to involve a quarrel between the House of Commons and the law. Now there cannot be anything more dangerous than the theory that the House of Commons is above the law of the land. Once or twice it has tried to make itself so—notably in the case of the Middlesex election, which so convulsed England in the last century—and also in still later times. But the law is the embodiment of the will of the whole state, of which the House of Commons is only one organ; and if we once allow that House to become too powerful it may ultimately be the agent of the overthrow of our liberties.

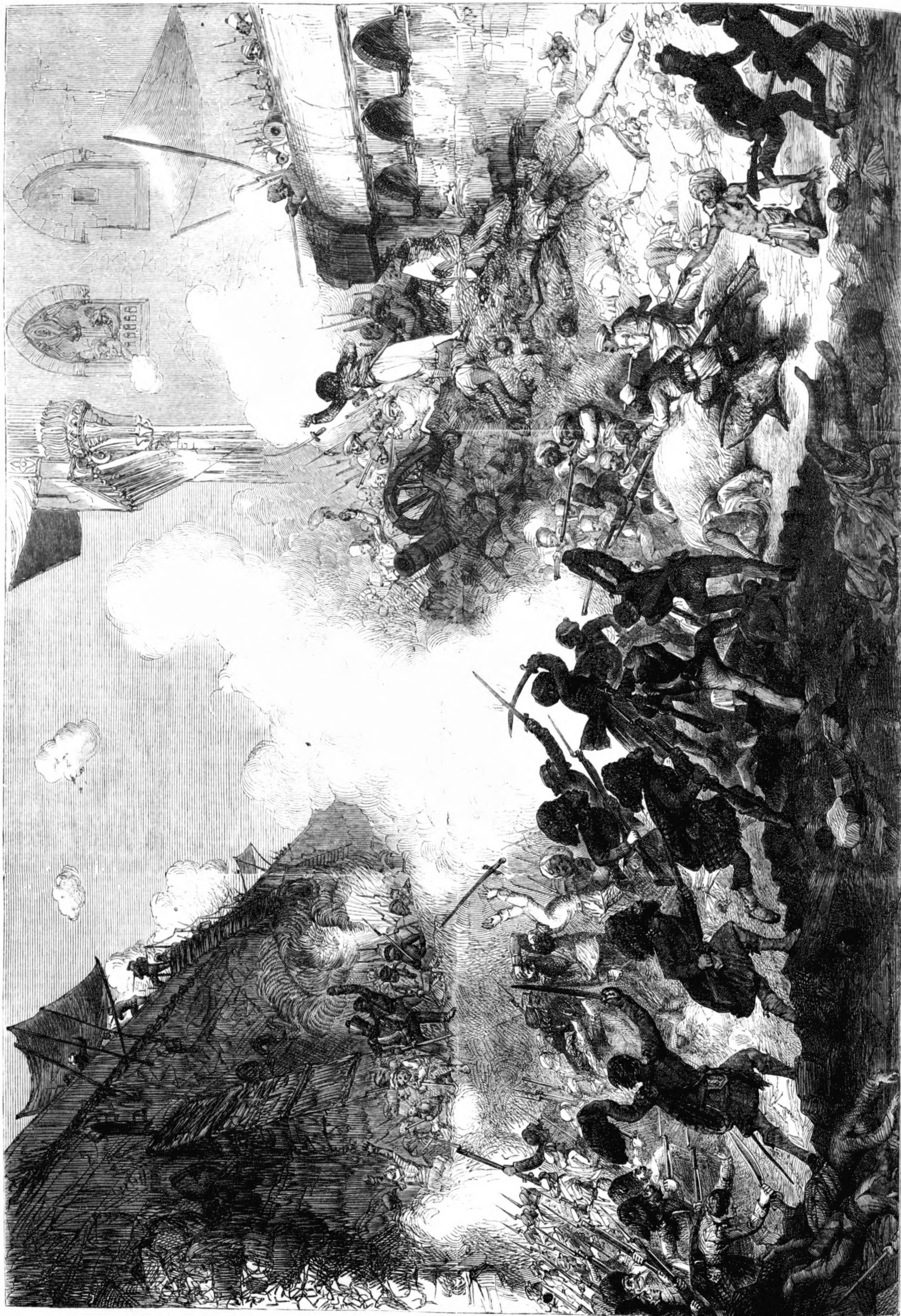
Disapproving of all plans of achieving the desired result except by act of Parliament, we should be glad to see the Lords agree by such act to let the Commons arrange the affair in their own way. We admit, and always will support, the constitutional rights of the House of Lords; but have they not now carried their anti-Jewish protest far enough? This is a House of Commons question—a *personal* question, so to speak, of that House's. Surely the Commons are not such babies but that they can take care of their own Christian character! Really it implies a kind of contempt for their sense and honour to go on snubbing them in this way; and it is not pleasant to be treated with contempt—especially by a Shaftesbury!

Let us have a bill to regulate the whole subject of oaths; to enable us to leave the fallen House of Stuart in their graves; and to settle on each branch of the Legislature the power of admitting or excluding *motu proprio* what classes of citizens it may please.

## THE FIGHTING IN LUCKNOW.

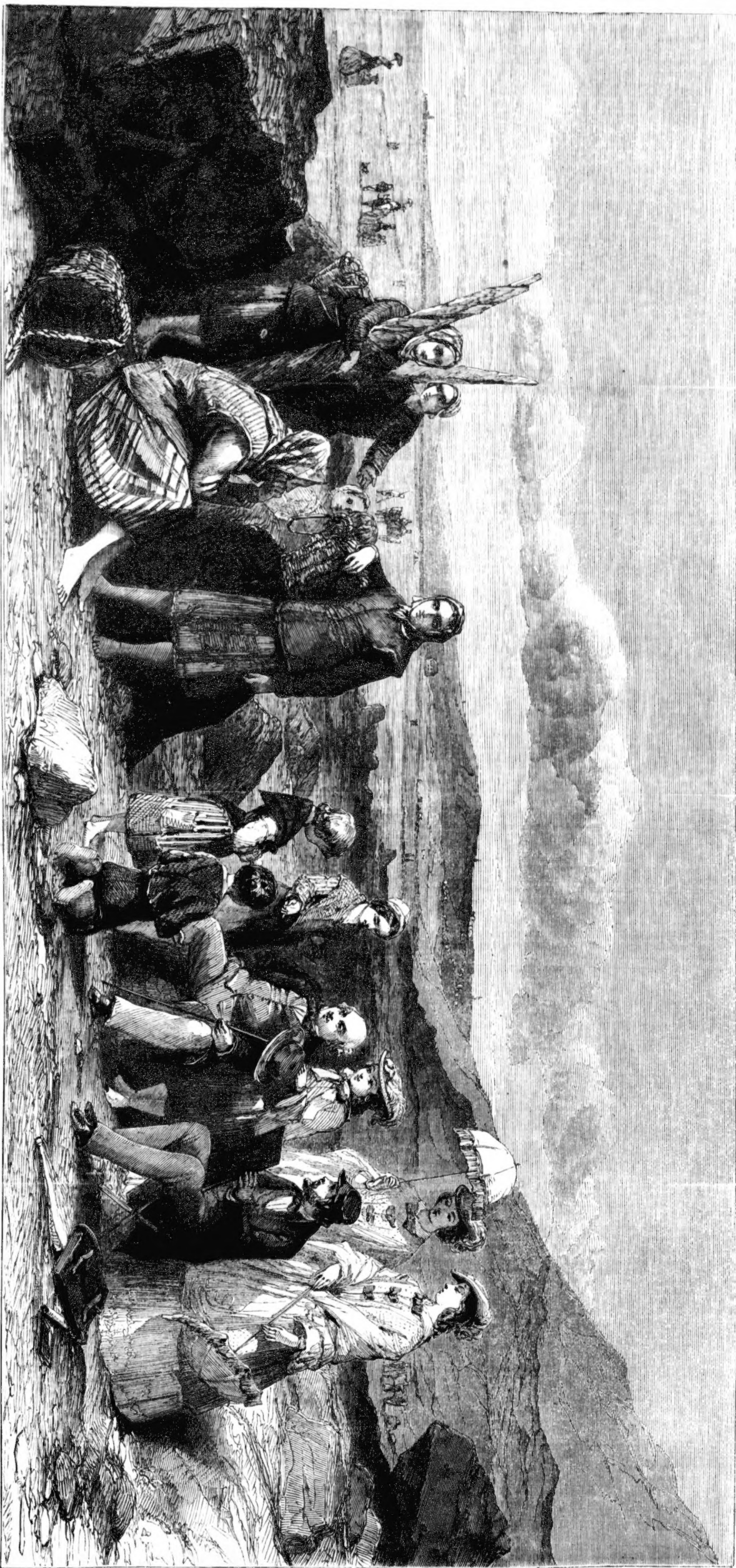
ALREADY we have made our readers acquainted with incidents of the detailed fight through Lucknow by the forces under Sir Colin Campbell. Nothing but pictorial illustration remained to complete our conception of the scene in the city when the great assault was made; and this we now lay before our readers. The engraving on the following page is from a sketch by Mr. Watson, of the Civil Engineers.





THE STORMING OF LUCKNOW.—(FROM A SKETCH BY MR. WATSON, C. P.)





BOULOGNE—1857.

A WATER-COLOUR DRAWING IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY. BY JOHN ABSOLON.

Some of these days, justice, we sincerely hope, will be done to Boulogne. Comic writers have so inundated us with facetious descriptions of this charming watering-place; we have heard so much about the hotel tonters, and the shabby-gentled boarding-houses; the bathing subscription-rooms, and the French-English of the *commissaires*; the half-pay captains who perambulate the pier, and equivocal notabilities in moustaches who have sought refuge in the Patmos of the Pas de Calais, and hunt the little cotes; the donkey-riding, cheap tobacco, bad Cognac, and swarms of underrived English visitors;—that the present generation has come to look at Boulogne as something between a Herne Bay, with a dash of animation thrown into it, and a Gravesend, suddenly transplanted to the shores of Picardy. Mr. Albert Smith and his following have done more to vulgarise Boulogne than White ever did to glorify Seaborne. It is time that Boulogne should emerge from the eclipse into which the pert paragraphs of the fast writers of the day have cast it. It is time that those who stay at home, as well as those who, unobtrusive and unpretensive, roam abroad, should know what a quaint, picturesque, artist's-home of a place is this much-maligned Boulogne—"Boulone," or "Bulogny," as the Cockneys call it. Space will not serve us now; but we promise ourselves a page of print, somewhere, and very shortly, to chant the picturesque glories of Boulogne: the heights, the queer upper town, the market-place, with its capital old church, the by-Samuel-Proctor-beloved Rue des Machi-

BOULOGNE, 1857.—(FROM A WATER-COLOUR DRAWING, BY JOHN ABSOLON, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.)

coils, the walk over the sands to the Chapel of *Jesus flagellé*, the charming environs, with their pleasant prospects. We have grown to content Boulogne, because it is near and familiar to us, and we can be waited there by steamer for ten shillings, just as we contemn that most glorious and majestic fruit, the orange, just forsooth! because it is imported by the Jews in St. Mary Axe, and sold for a penny at every street-corner stall.

To do our good friends, the painters, justice, they have long since found out Boulogne and its beauties; and it has been to them for years a sketching ground of infinite vantage. Mr. Joseph Jenkins, Mr. Topham, and Mr. Goodall have wooed the delightful fishermen—second to only in picturesque charms to the Christie Johnstones of Musselburgh and Portobello—most successfully. Mr. George Thomas has shown us that there is more worth sketching at Boulogne than the red-legged soldiers of Napoleon's camp; and now tender, graceful Mr. John Absolon enriches our Academy exhibition with a water-colour drawing, sparkling, brilliant, and harmonious, of Boulogne in 1857. Where is the cynic, where the hypercrite, who will object to those piscatorial young ladies because they eschew the use of shoes and stockings? To our minds, their ruddy limbs are infinitely preferable to the pink paddings of Mademoiselle Tentoes of the opera.

There is a saline life and freshness, a cheerful movement and animation, about this picture, which we cannot too highly commend, and which, make us—old lovers of Boulogne as we are, long to start per South-Eastern Railway *insister*. But one sad fragment of byssop is mingled in the chalice of our delight. Are the Boulogne fishermen quite so

well favoured as Mr. John Absolon has depicted them? Have they such ravishingly well turned ankles as the painter has endowed them with? We have known Annette and Aménide, Josette and Pulchérie, Palmyre and Marie-Jeanne, Babette and Sophie, and all the fish-beauties of Boulogne (by sight, *bien entendu*, for their severity to tourists is quite of a vested character) for years; but such pretty girls as Mr. Absolon's are, we fear, as few and far between at Boulogne as the whole world over.

THE DEATH OF ACHMET PACHA.

Last week we announced that Achmet Pacha, successor in prospect to the present viceroy of Egypt, had been drowned through an accident in the railway at Alexandria. This was the first railway accident in Egypt; and it is unfortunate that a man so highly esteemed and of such importance should have been among its victims.

From later accounts, it appears that Achmet Pacha had come down to Alexandria to offer the customary congratulations to the ruling Viceroy, and after the public reception, which, as usual, was held early in the morning, he left for Cairo by the ordinary passenger train. At Kafr-Iais the Nile is crossed by a steam ferry supporting a platform, which, by means of machinery, can be raised or depressed so as to adapt itself to the varying levels of the river. Two luggage vans and two carriages, in the second of which sat Achmet Pacha and Halim Pacha, brother of the Viceroy, were pushed forward upon the platform in the usual manner, but in order to overcome a slight inequality between the level of the rails on the platform and the shore, the men

gave the carriages a stronger impetus than was necessary; in consequence of which the foremost van bounded over the checks placed across the further extremity of the rails, and its wheels rolled on beyond the edge. In falling it dragged on the other carriages, which successively shot over the brink, and the whole went crashing down into the river from a height of about thirty feet. Halim Pacha took alarm before it was too late, and had the presence of mind to spring out of the carriage as it rolled along. He thus escaped with only a few bruises, but his unfortunate nephew was borne helplessly along, and when his body was recovered it had already been for upwards of twenty minutes under water, and life was quite extinct. Besides himself the carriage contained Khiereddin Pacha, formerly chief of the Transit Administration; Rafat Bey, lately appointed director of the Board for Managing the Mercantile Affairs of the Government; and a negro slave, all of whom, in like manner, perished.

Achmet Pacha was the eldest son of the late Ibrahim Pacha, and the eldest living prince of Mehemet Ali's family, consequently, successor to the present Viceroy. Under his rule the prosperity of the country would have been certain. Besides his many good qualities, he was the only one of the Egyptian princes who acknowledged that it was to England that Egypt was indebted for her present improved condition. He was a great admirer of all that was English, sympathised with English ideas, and knew that there was much to be gained by cultivating the friendship of the British cabinet. Twenty-four hours before he ceased to exist, he was heard to say that the cutting of the Isthmus of Suez would be the ruin of Egypt.



## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY was to leave Osborne for Buckingham Palace yesterday (Friday).

MR. THOMAS SKAIFE, of Blackheath, has successfully photographed a descending 13-inch shell at the instant of explosion. After this feat, we may expect to hear of a correct portrait of a flash of lightning.

THE STORMY WEATHER which we have had in England has prevailed with even greater violence in Ireland. On Sunday week there were torrents of rain and hail; the hailstones were the size of small marbles, and much damage was done to windows, while the blossoms of the fruit-trees suffered much.

THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE, it seems, have notified to photographers that they must get rid of their "smoothing presses,"—such presses, it appears, might be converted into a means of copying or lithographing, and the Emperor's Government abhors anything like "unlicensed printing."

THE "INDEPENDENCE BELGE" is to be prohibited from entering France for an indefinite time.

THE RETURNS OF THE CUSTOMS REVENUE of France show a considerable falling off this year.

AFTER THE RECENT BATTLE BETWEEN THE TURKS AND MONTENEGRINS 200 Turkish noses were cut off, and sent to Prince Daniel, at Cetinje, and with them the sword of a fallen senator, Pop Giuro. The Vienna correspondent of the "Times" says some hundreds of heads were cut off, and more than 2,000 noses.—(These must have been prisoners' noses, surely.)

THE QUEEN has presented Professor Faraday with a residence at Hampton Court, which is to be furnished at her Majesty's expense.

ALESSANDRO MANZONI, author of "I Promessi Sposi," whose life has been despaired of, is now said to be out of danger.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON is said to have joined the corps of leader-writers for the "Morning Herald."

ABOUT 17,000 MEN are required to complete the British military establishment. Recruiting goes on at the rate of 200 men per diem.

GENOA PAPERS state that a mutiny occurred, on the 23rd ult., on board the French vessel Sarah, in that port; and that it was quelled by the aid of the Piedmontese coast-guard. Two ringleaders were arrested.

MR. DICKENS proposes, on the 10th of June, to give a reading entitled "Little Dombey," which will consist of those passages in "Dombey and Son" which relate solely to the life of little Paul, and which Mr. Dickens has arranged for the purpose.

A HUNDRED AND FIFTY OFFICERS SERVING IN INDIA have tendered their resignations to General Sir Colin Campbell, G.C.B.: so the "United Service Gazette" says.

A SPLENDID STEAM-FRIGATE, THE FORTY, was launched at Deptford, on Saturday, in the presence of many thousands of spectators. She was christened by Lady Pakington.

A FRENCH TRADESMAN committed suicide a few nights ago in a somewhat singular manner: he hanged himself in his bed-room, and the moment he found himself suspended plunged a dagger into his heart.

TWELVE NEW QUEEN'S COUNSEL have been made in Ireland. Of this number ten are Conservatives and two are Liberals. Considering that almost all honours and offices are monopolised by the Whigs, this is only to be expected; perhaps it is only fair.

A BRIGHTON PHYSICIAN successfully used a powerful magnet in extracting a small piece of iron from the eye of a smith last week.

A MACHINE FOR MANUFACTURING ICE has been made by a London firm. Ice so produced will be sold for 10s. a ton.

A PROPOSITION OF SIR GEORGE GREY, to transport 10,000 Sepoys from India to the Cape, revealed in a blue-book recently arrived at the colony, has caused great excitement at Cape Town.

SOME LABOURERS, cutting turf in Badenoch, Ireland, found, about a foot and a half beneath the surface, a dish containing a stone of butter. The dish fell to pieces on being exposed to the air, but the butter was quite fresh, though probably a century old.

GENERAL SIR JOHN INGLIS landed at Dover on Saturday morning from Calais.

THE BODY OF GENERAL SIR H. HAVELOCK is to be exhumed at the expense of some of the officers he commanded, and sent to England.

THE VALE OF CLWYD RAILWAY, between Rhyl and St. Asaph, will be opened on the 1st of July.

THE "HAMPSHIRE ADVERTISER" contradicts the statement that Portsmouth is being strongly fortified, and asserts that "the old forts are not worth the mud they consist of."

A NEW DISEASE, or at least a new epidemic, has shown itself, particularly in Essex. It is called "diphtheria," or putrid sore throat, and has, in many cases, proved fatal. The Registrar-General ascribes this horrible disease, which is most prevalent in France, to the volatile gases which are engendered in cesspools, &c.

A COUPLE WERE ABOUT TO ENTER THE BONDS OF WEDLOCK, at Bridge-water, when the bridesmaid was found to be so intoxicated as to be unable to walk. She was taken to the White Horse Inn, and put to bed.

THE NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS ARRIVED IN THE PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES since 1844 has been 3,907,018—a respectable nation. The greatest number in one year was in 1854—460,474.

THE DEATH OF A REVOLUTIONARY HEROINE, named Mrs. Sarah Benjamin, at the extraordinary age of 114 years five months and three days, is recorded in American newspapers.

THE REPORT OF THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER'S RESIGNATION is contradicted.

THE SILK CROP IN NAPLES has been almost entirely lost in consequence of disease among the worms. Sicily, however, has escaped.

THE HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH is again reported to be much weakened, from the gradual yielding of the spine.

A FESTIVAL on the largest scale, numbering, it is said, as many as 4,000 singers, is to be held at Zurich, on the 18th of July.

RUDIO, Orsini's accomplice, has been sent to Cayenne.

GAETANO MOTELLI, one of the most celebrated sculptors in Italy, is dead. Several of his statues were sent to the Universal Exhibitions of London, Paris, and New York.

THE NIGHT OF THE CALEDONIAN BALL has been changed from Friday, the 11th, to Thursday, the 10th inst. This decision was arrived at in consequence of the large number of persons who would be attracted to London by the Queen's ball on the 9th.

MARSHAL NARVAEZ, accompanied by an aide-de-camp and the ex-Mayor of Madrid, has arrived in Paris. It has been said that his journey to France was to take the waters of Vichy.

MR. BRIGIT has written a letter contradicting a rumour that he was about to relinquish his seat for Birmingham—a step which some politicians pretend to consider the natural result of his recent support of Lord Derby's Government.

THE NEWS OF THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD on the "Fraser" and on Thompson's Rivers, in the British territory to the north of the Oregon and Washington territories, is confirmed by every arrival from those countries.

A CORRESPONDENT OF THE "TIMES" states that a specimen of gold found in Vancouver's Island six years ago is now to be seen in the British Museum. He remarks:—"There seems to be some little excitement about the discovery of gold in Vancouver's Island. The Hudson's Bay Company have been aware of the fact for years, but their interests are not in accordance with the interests of their countrymen."

MAX MULLER, Taylorian Professor of Modern European Languages at Oxford, Member of the Royal Bavarian Academy, and other learned societies, has been elected, under the provisions of the new statutes, Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

THE HEAD-MASTERSHIP OF CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOL, vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. Elder, has been conferred upon the Rev. Richard Elwyn. Mr. Elwyn was senior classic and members' prizeman at Cambridge in 1849, where he also took mathematical honours. He gained the Bell University Scholarship in 1846, and the Craven Scholarship in 1848.

THE GOLD COAST is already provided with a newspaper—the "West African Herald." It is a very little paper of course.

THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF THE HANAPER, vacant by the death of Mr. John O'Connell, has been conferred on Mr. Ralph Cusack, barrister.

FIFTY THOUSAND PERSONS assembled in the Regent's Park on Sunday to listen to the People's Subscription Band.

A STEEL STEAM-SHIP of 160 tons, for the navigation of the river Niger, has just been built. The steam launch for the Livingstone expedition of the Zambesi river was also built of steel plates.

BY THE DEATH OF THE DUCHESS D'ORLEANS, the French Government saves 300,000*l.* a year, which neither the Republic nor the Emperor attempted to withdraw, it being the national dowry settled by France; but there is no reversionary interest for the Count de Paris.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

IN one of the "Sketches by Boz" there is a pathetic description of a shop upon which the seal of fate is set. It is taken by twenty different people in as many various trades. All that can be done for it is done, but it never succeeds; at every two or three months the shutters are up, and the new tenant makes rather a greater fiasco than his predecessors. The Lyceum Theatre appears to me to fill the place of this shop in the theatrical world. Some years ago Mr. Charles Mathews appeared as a bankrupt in the Basinghall Street court, and the public were electrified with a few selections from his accounts, by which it appeared that while he was living in every species of comfort, if not luxury, the members of his company were not paid the few shillings a-week which their bare work entitled them to. On this subject I expatiated in my *feuilleton*, and I now wish to address to you a few observations on another bankruptcy, in connection with the same theatre, which has just come before the Commissioner. Mr. Charles Dillon, late manager of the Lyceum Theatre, has been made bankrupt as a "bookseller," and came up for examination on Thursday se'night. I extract from the daily journals some particulars of the debts and credits.

"From a preliminary statement, prepared by Messrs. Butler and Cannings, it appears that the debts and liabilities are between £5,000 and £6,000, assets *nil*. Among the creditors are—Mr. William Brough (author), £58; Dramatic Authors' Society (authorship fees), £18; Mr. Edmund Faulkner (author), £26; Messrs. Harrington and Yates (authors), £21; proprietor of the 'Daily Mercury,' Belfast, £37; proprietors of the 'La Presse de Londres,' £3; Metropolitan Advertising Company, £56; Messrs. Smith and Son, advertising agents, £57; Messrs. Chapman and Co., Shoe Lane (printing), £44; R. S. Francis (printing), £7. There are also bill-posters for smallamounts. Mr. B. O. Conquest, of the Grecian, is a creditor for £2,000, cash advanced and interest. Messrs. Seale and Low, Leicester Square, bankers, are creditors for £400; Elvey, tavern-waiter, £7, for refreshments supplied to the theatre; Lomas, tavern-keeper, Manchester, £4 10s.; the proprietor of the Exeter Hall Hotel, £3, refreshments; Mr. Simpson, of the Albion, £14; proprietors of the 'Sheffield Free Press' and the 'Shipping Gazette,' for advertisements; Mr. Charles Webb, £273 18s., for timber, canvas, and other goods supplied, and for services as manager; Edward Wood, armourer, £3 14s. 6d., for swords and pistols; Clargue, £16 12s. 4d., for wreaths and flowers; Fenwick, £14 9s. 7d.; a number of scene painters and pianoforte manufacturers, for hire of pianofortes for theatre; Mr. Samuel May, costumier, hire of wardrobe, £120; W. Montgomery, leader of the band, £8; members of the Lyceum Theatre, £24; Mrs. Theodore Martin, late Miss Helen Faucit, £60; Messrs. Parnell and Guillaume, £108, law costs for conducting action brought by Miss Fitzpatrick; Mr. Alfred Mellon, £37 10s.; Mr. John Knowles, Theatre Royal, Manchester, £320; Mr. J. B. Roberts, tragedian, holds bankrupt's acceptances for £5 and £10 respectively; Mrs. Buckingham White, Theatre Royal, Haymarket, £12, &c."

Now, sir, I ask any person having any knowledge of the theatrical profession to look through that list, and think, for one moment, of how those debts were incurred. The authors are gentlemen whose names we are in the habit of seeing in periodical literature, and as connected with other theatres; men whose time is money, and who have lost both. The printers and advertising agents must pay their *employés*; so must the tavern-keepers. The tavern waiter must have paid on the spot for the "refreshment" which he supplied to Mr. Dillon. You do not suppose that Mrs. Theodore Martin, Mrs. Mellon, or Mrs. B. White acted for the mere love of displaying their talents; or that the minor creditors made wreaths and swords, painted scenes and supplied pianos, for fun! No, sir; these people worked hard and gave the produce of their brains and the labour of their hands—for what? Simply that a second-rate provincial actor, possessing a very loud voice and undeniable self-assurance, might assume a position as a London manager, ride about in a brougham, issue imperious orders, posture and wriggle before large cheval looking-glasses, and see his name in enormous letters on every dead wall in the metropolis. Mr. Charles Mathews, it is undeniable, was scandalously reckless in his spendthrift propensities, but he was a gentleman bred and born, and his schedule showed mourning tailors, hatters, bootmakers, and florists; it is, perhaps, Mr. Dillon's provincial bringing up, that causes such a show of tavern-keepers and waiters in his list. Be this as it may, let us hope that this downfall and public *exposé* will act as a salutary lesson to persons of Mr. Dillon's *genre*, that they will keep their cast-iron lungs for the cast-iron heads of the operatives in manufacturing towns, and that they will not be tempted up to London to victimise those ladies and gentlemen, theatrical and literary, who, in their anxiety to uphold the position of the stage, suffer their feelings to get the better of their judgment.

During the past fortnight the *Leviathan* has been the great sight-seeing attraction to London idlers and country cousins. But little progress has been made towards the completion of the ship since the protracted launch proved a success. Nevertheless, crowds of people have been attracted to Greenwich daily, and on Saturday last upwards of 1,000 persons visited the huge vessel. As was supposed, want of money is the sole reason why the *Leviathan* is not now fit for sea.

The shareholders, it seems, have recently authorised the directors to raise the necessary capital, namely, £220,000, by way of annuity. For every £20 they offer the extremely favourable terms of an annuity of £5 for a period of eight years, the payment of the said annuities to take preference over any dividends to shareholders, and to be further guaranteed by a certain per centage of the returns of the Great Trunk Railway of Canada and the London and North-Western Railway, derived from passenger traffic in connection with the great ship. The scheme is evidently addressed to the general public rather than to the Stock Exchange, and I should imagine that thousands of persons will be found willing to invest £20 to aid in perfecting one of the most remarkable undertakings of modern times, and one in every way strongly deserving of public support.

The ship will be open to the public for some time longer, and during the fine weather will, of course, be a source of great attraction. Those who make the trip to Greenwich should, however, take care to provide themselves beforehand with tickets from Mr. Sams, St. James's Street, of opera-box and stall renown.

Last Sunday, died, at the advanced age of 78, Mrs. Davison, one of the best actresses in her peculiar line that ever trod the British stage. She was the original Juliana in Tobias' comedy of the "Honeymoon," an admirable Lady Teazle and Lydia Languish, and a sweet singer of Scotch ballads. Her husband died within the last few weeks, but she leaves a son, Mr. J. W. Davison, one of the most distinguished musical critics of the age.

M. Geromes' marvellous picture of the duel after the bal masque in the Bois de Boulogne is again on view at the French Gallery.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

A NEW burlesque by Mr. H. I. Byron, smartly written, and admirably put upon the stage, has been produced with great success at the Strand.

The Haymarket will close in the course of next month for thorough renovation.

THE NEXT IN THE LINE OF SUCCESSION TO THE VICEROYALTY OF EGYPT, now that Achmet Pacha is no more, is Ismail Pacha, his brother, son of the late Ibrahim Pacha.

MR. CHARLES MATHEWS COWILDED.—Mr. Charles Mathews has been "cowilded" in the streets of New York, by Mr. Davenport, a brother comedian, whose divorced wife Mr. Mathews recently married. The cause of quarrel between the two gentlemen appears to be of a somewhat delicate character.

AN insurrection has broken out in the Isle of Candia.

BANQUET TO SIR ARCHDALE WILSON, K.C.B.—A sumptuous entertainment was given on Wednesday evening by the members of the Oriental Club to Major-General Sir Archdale Wilson, of Delhi, to celebrate his return home, after his distinguished military service in India.

## Literature.

*Travels in Central Africa.* By Dr. BARTH. 3 vols. London: Longmans.

BOOKS of travel into remote and savage countries have always exercised a peculiar charm over the minds of the reading public. The variety, however, to be found in the writings of travellers into remote regions is no less diverse than that to be remarked among the productions of any other class of authors. From the enthusiastic missionary, whose highest ambition may be to place a converted savage upon the platform of Exeter Hall, to the lively traveller who intersperses with comic songs his description of an ascent of Mont Blanc; from the adventurous sportsman who seeks for excitement in the fierce ardour of the lion-hunt, to the scientific voyager to whom a journey round the world without a barometer would be a blank—most of the diverse tastes of humanity may be found displayed in our literature of travel. Dr. Barth exhibits to a great extent the barometric element, and favours us with an appendix describing the exact state of the weather and its variations during each day of his journey. In the three volumes before us, the object of his relation seems to be principally that of non-omission. The work is encyclopedic with respect to all the track over which he has travelled, and useful with respect to the surrounding regions over which his inquiries and consequent information have extended. He relates with equal care his experience of a campaign between two hostile tribes, and his own difficulty when he obtained fresh butter instead of water from a misunderstanding between himself and a dark scantily-attired female as to a consonant which served to establish the lingual difference between the two articles. The result is a work no doubt of the exact kind required by the promoters of Dr. Barth's journeyings, but scarcely of a character to excite peculiar interest among the general public. It exhibits a copiousness which will only be a recommendation to those who regard the book as intended more for reference than steady perusal. The reasons which induced Dr. Barth to set out upon his hazardous and toilsome journey are thus related in his preface:—

## WHY THE JOURNEY WAS UNDERTAKEN.

"On the 5th of October, 1849, at Berlin, Professor Carl Ritter informed me that the British Government was about to send Mr. Richardson on a mission to Central Africa, and that they had offered, through the Chevalier Bunsen, to allow a German traveller to join the mission, provided he was willing to contribute two hundred pounds for his own personal travelling expenses."

"I had commenced lecturing at the University of Berlin on comparative geography and the colonial commerce of antiquity, and had just at that time published the first volume of my 'Wanderings Round the Mediterranean,' which comprised my journey through Barbary. Having undertaken this journey quite alone, I spent nearly my whole time with the Arabs, and familiarised myself with that state of human society where the camel is man's daily companion, and the culture of the date-tree his chief occupation. I made long journeys through desert tracts; I travelled all round the Great Syrtis, and, passing through the picturesque little tract of Cyrenaica, traversed the whole country towards Egypt; I wandered about for above a month in the desert valleys between Aswan and Koser, and afterwards pursued my journey by land all the way through Syria and Asia Minor to Constantinople."

"While traversing these extensive tracts, where European comfort is never altogether out of reach, where lost supplies may be easily replaced, and where the protection of European Powers is not quite without avail, I had often cast a wistful look towards those unknown or little-known regions in the interior, which stand in frequent, though irregular, connection with the coast. As a lover of ancient history, I had been led towards those regions rather through the commerce of ancient Carthage than by the thread of modern discovery; and the desire to know something more about them acted on me like a charm."

It may be necessary to state that throughout his travels the Doctor received the protection and assistance of the English Government, to whom his reports were from time to time addressed, and for whom we may reasonably infer his book to have been more specially written. The political object of the expedition (for it must have had a political object), was alleged to be preparatory to further measures for the extinction of the slave trade. With this explanation, no doubt the Doctor was perfectly satisfied, but before expressing any opinion as to its perfect truth, we would humbly prefer waiting the coming events which this and other explorations into Africa generally, lead us reasonably to anticipate. It may be found that after all, the French occupation of a portion of Northern Africa has more connection with the matter than has the exportation of slaves.

On the sixth day of his travel, and at a distance of about forty-five miles due south from Tripolis, Dr. Barth discovered traces of the old Roman campaigns in Africa, by certain architectural remains, which he thus describes:—

## ROMAN RUINS AT UM E TERZAN.

"Upon this hill there was formerly a castle built of hewn stone. The foundation walls, which are still traceable, show that it faced the East. It was evidently a Roman castle, but after the dominion of the Romans and Byzantines had passed away, the Berbers appear to have strengthened it, by adding another outwork on the west side, not, however, in the same grand style as the Romans, but with small irregular stones, putting bastions to the corners, and surrounding the whole castle with considerable outworks on the slope of the hill."

The Roman castle has been swept away, but the Roman sepulchre is still preserved with almost all its architectural finery, and is still regarded by the surrounding tribes with a certain awe and reverence. (In the eleventh century all these Roman monuments hereabout were still the objects of adoration.) It was most probably the sepulchre of a Roman commander of the castle in the time of the Antonines. The style of its architecture belongs to the second century, but no inscription remains to tell its story. Its whole length is about thirty-six feet."

Numerous other Roman remains, discovered by the travellers, are described in the early chapters of Dr. Barth's book. It would however be useless to extract the passages relating to them without the illustrations with which these are accompanied. It will nevertheless be interesting, at least to Englishmen, to learn that amid the desolation of the African wilderness, are to be found structures of a character identical with that of the great British mystery of Stonehenge. From these, some antiquarian will probably before long either deduce a new theory, or derive a confirmation as to the much-doubted one at present received for want of a better, as to their erection by the Druids. Certainly, some of the conquered Britons might have accompanied the Roman army into Africa, and have been there allowed to worship according to the rites of the religion of their fathers; or, on the other hand, Stonehenge itself may have been a Roman work.

The following passage describes the sufferings of Dr. Barth, on being temporarily separated from his companions, and being forced to pass the night

## ASTRAY IN THE DESERT.

"My strength being now exhausted, I sat down on the naked plain, with a full view before me of the whole breadth of the wadi, and with some confidence expected the caravan. I even thought, for a moment, that I beheld a string of camels passing in the distance, but it was an illusion; and when the sun was about to set, not being able to muster strength enough to walk a few paces without sitting down, I had only to choose the latter, as being on a more elevated spot, and therefore scrambled to the tree, which was of a respectable old age, with thick tall branches, but almost leafless. It was my intention to light a fire, which promised almost certain deliverance; but I could not muster sufficient strength to gather a little wood. I was broken down and in a feverish state."

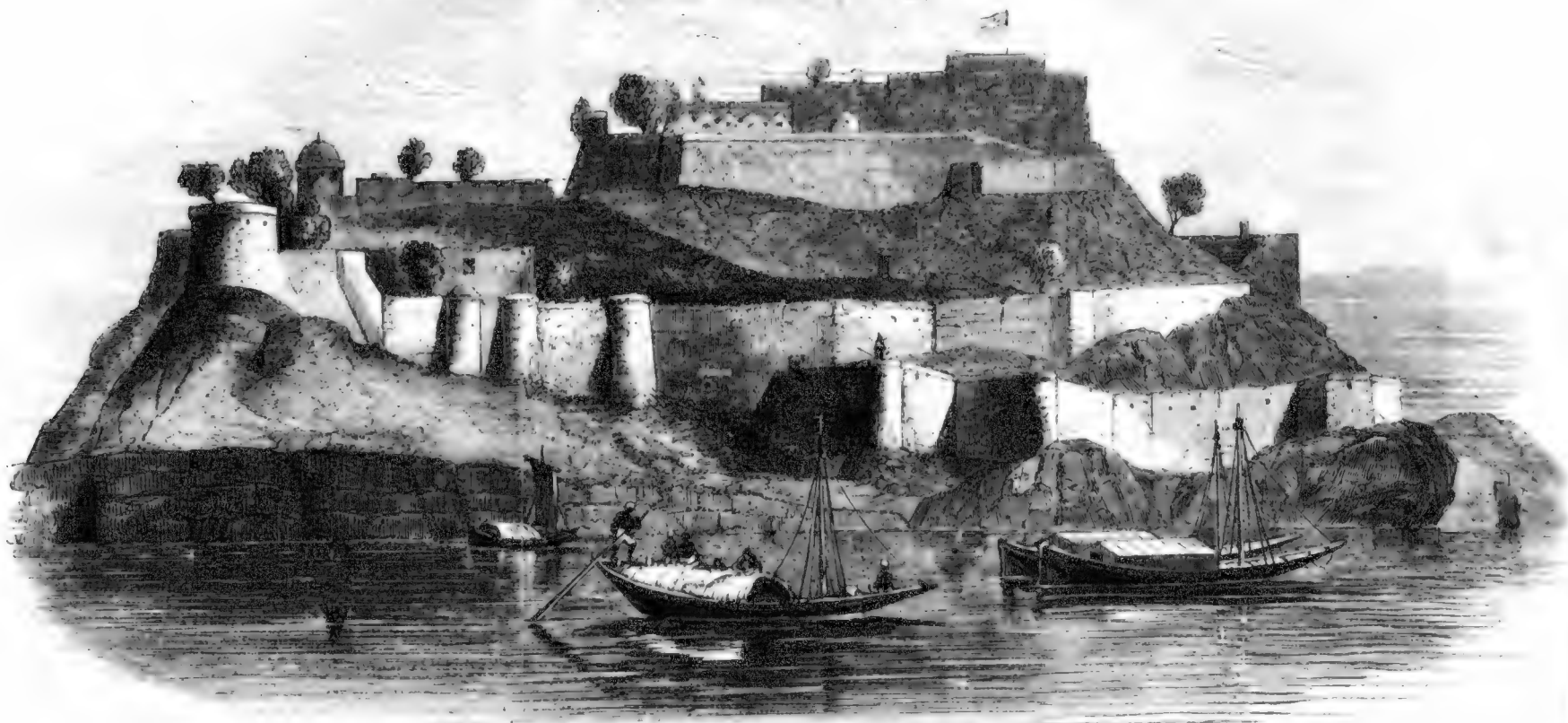
"Having lain down for an hour or two, after it became quite dark I arose from the ground, and, looking around me, descried to my great joy a large fire south-west down the valley, and, hoping that it might be that of my companions, I fired a pistol, as the only means of communicating with them, and listened as the sound rolled along, feeling sure that it would reach their ears; but no answer was returned: all remained silent. Still I saw the flame rising towards the sky, and telling where deliverance was to be found, without my being able to avail myself of the signal. Having waited long in vain, I fired a second time—yet no answer. I lay down in resignation, committing my life to the care of the Merciful One; but it was in vain that I tried to sleep, and restless and in a high fever I tossed about on the ground, looking with anxiety and fear for the dawn of the next day."

"At length the long night wore away, and dawn was drawing nigh. All was repose and silence; and I was sure I could not choose a better time for trying to inform my friends, by signal, of my whereabouts. I therefore collected all my strength, loaded my pistol with a heavy charge, and fired once, twice. I thought the sound ought to awaken the dead from their tombs, so powerfully did it reverberate from the opposite range and roll



Ten Gaelic compositions were also given in, the prizes for which are not yet awarded. The judges were:—Captain Campbell of Glendaruel:





THE FORTRESS OF CHUNAR, ON THE GANGES.—(FROM A SKETCH.)

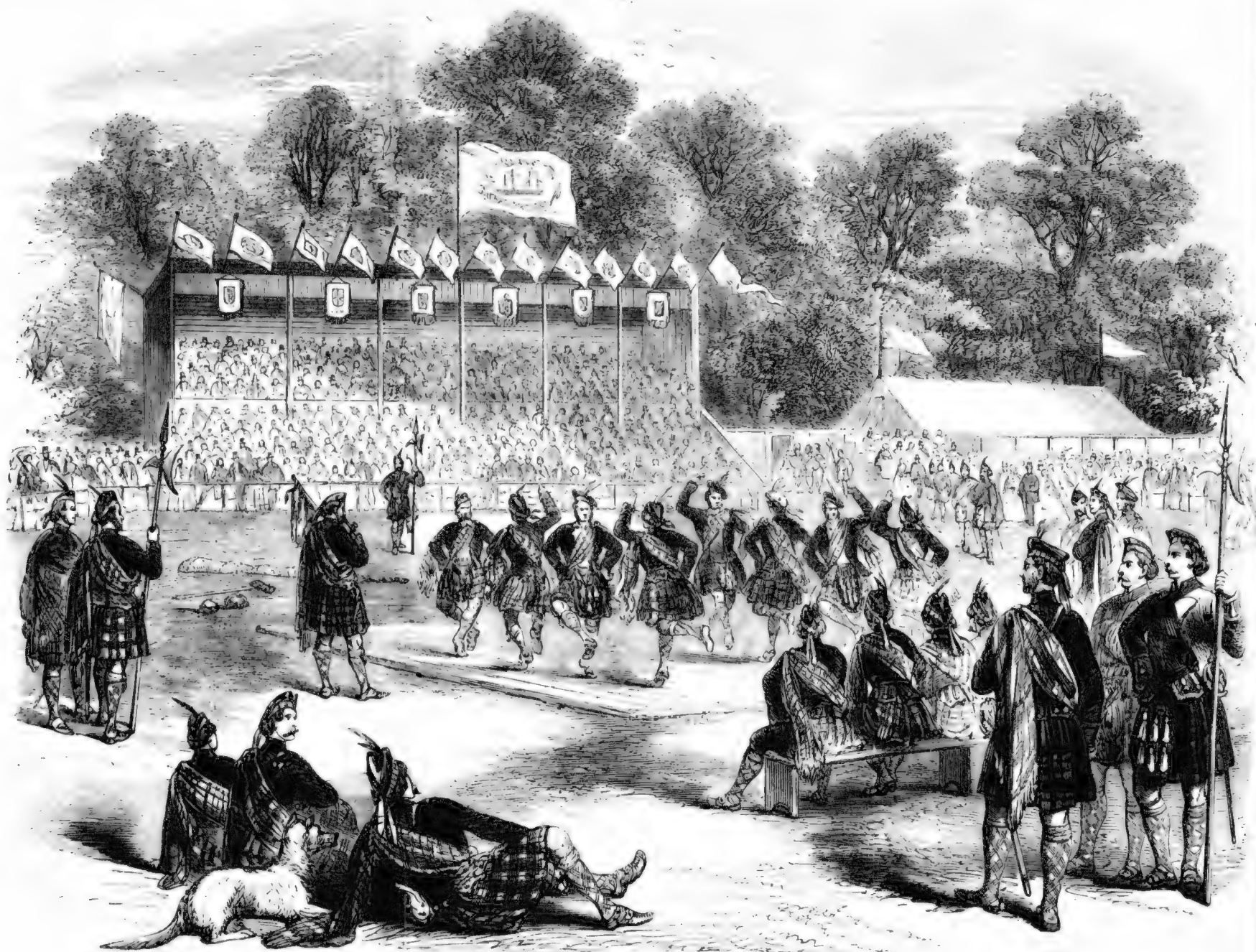
Mr. Colin Campbell, Greenock; Mr. Duncan M'Callum, C.E., Edinburgh; Mr. Kenneth M'Leay, R.S.A.; Mr. Alexander M'Donnell, Lasswade; and Mr. D. M'Pherson, Dundee.

The meeting was, on the whole, more successful than that of the previous year, although much regret was expressed for the absence

of the Chief and Chieftain, Sir Charles and Sir W. Forbes, and of Cluny Macpherson.

When the sports were concluded, the members of the Society marched back to Edinburgh in regular order, and proceeded to McGregor's Hotel, in Princes's Street, where a magnificent dinner awaited them—

Mr. Kenneth M'Leay, R.S.A., occupying the chair. The Queen's health was drunk with "Highland honours," in which each person stands with one foot on his chair and another on the table. Other toasts followed of course, and during the intervals the company were enlivened by the pipers, who played national airs.



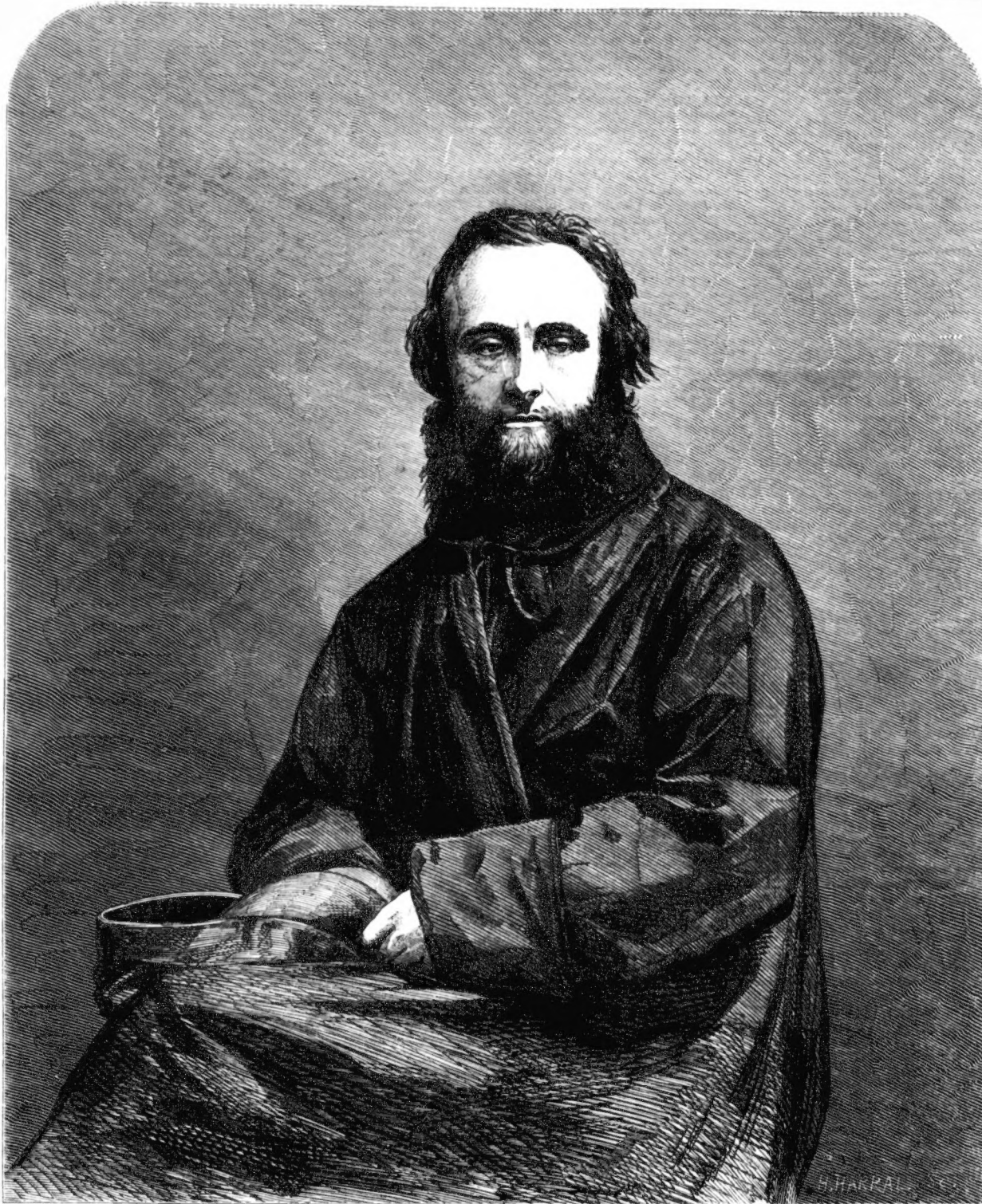
THE GATHERING OF THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY AT EDINBURGH.



JAMES C. HOOK, A.R.A.

Few of the numberless amateurs who have this year hung with delight over the charming productions of Mr. Hook, exhibited on the walls of the Royal Academy—who have indulged a not unnatural emotion evoked by the beauty and pathos of the family group, with its apothegm. "Children's children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children are their fathers"—who have enjoyed to their fullest extent the varied excellences of the "Pastoral"—or who have gazed admiringly at the bold and nervous picture, with its marvellous foreground, of "The coast-boy gathering eggs," his pastime as perilous as the trade of him who hangs to the jutting cliff, and gathers samphire—would suspect that the seemingly essentially "natural" painter before them—the depicter of the common objects of the sea-shore, and the familiar life of the harvest-field and the green lane, should be an artist who has served a long and laborious apprenticeship to "high art," who has spent weary years in drawing from the "round" and the "life," who has, if not "wasted," at least employed, the midnight oil in studying the anatomical demonstrations of Albinus, in limning the "great trochanter" and the "mastoid process," who has been an Academy gold medallist, and, more than that, an Academy travelling student. The end that has resulted from all these means, is as unexpected and seems as incongruous as though Mr. John Rogers Herbert, R.A., was suddenly to submit a picture of "Punch" to the Hanging Committee; as though Mademoiselle Rosa Bonheur were to vary her life-like series of cattle pictures by a "Temptation of St. Anthony;" as though David Roberts were to court our suffrages for a school scene, *à la* Webster; or Ary Scheffer exhibit a cartoon of the steeple-chase of La Marche, in emulation of Mr. Frith's "Derby Day." Mr. Hook's antecedents are of a too severely academical nature ever to have led us to anticipate such a conversion; yet such has taken place. His first manner was the conventional grand; his second leaned somewhat towards the melodramatic romanticism, of the school of which, in writing, Sir Walter Scott in Britain, and Victor Hugo in France, were each the Coryphæus; in his third period, Mr. Hook seems to have cast the trammels of conventionalism, of the school of which the old pig-tail *cognoscenti* of Nollekens and Fuseli's time called "gusto," completely on one side. He has abandoned the *toga virilis* and the *coturnus* for the smock-frock and the hob-nailed shoon; a stone mug of brown October supplies the place of the classic amphora of Falernian; the Bay of Baia, the columns of Paestum, and the pines of Terracina, cede before the chalk of an English undercliff, the elms of Caen wood, and the hawthorn hedges of Gunglesbury Lane. We should be ungrateful were we not to hail this new accession to the English school with pleasure. We certainly have very little sympathy for Michael Angelo Dobbs, who changes a portrait of Mrs. Dobbs and baby into a "Madonna col Bambino;" but, on the other hand, we can admire the good sense, and appreciate the self-denial, of a painter who, initiated into the mysteries, and saturated with the traditions, of Italian art, brings his learning and his experience to bear upon the charming though humble episodes of English pastoral art. Mr. Hook is off with the old love, and on with the new. He has ceased sighing for Semiramis and Zenobia, and has taken up with sweet Molly Mog the milkmaid; but unless we are very much mistaken, his new sweetheart will be a faithful and affectionate helpmate to him; and he will ennoble and refine her as much as did the Lord of Burleigh his humble spouse, or King Cophetua the beggar maid.

James Clarke Hook (to quit the



J. C. HOOK, A.R.A.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY R. BOWLETT.)



SUMMER FASHIONS.

critical for the biographical) was born in London in the month of November, 1819. His father, the late James Hook, was judge in the mixed commission courts at Sierra Leone; and his mother is the second daughter of Dr. Adam Clarke, the Bible commentator. Mr. Hook was entered as a student of the Royal Academy in 1836; and in 1842 took the first medal in the life and painting schools. In 1845, he was fortunate enough to obtain the gold medal for historical painting—an honour enjoyed, in after years, by another, though more eccentric, convert to realism, Mr. John Everett Millais. Between 1836, Mr. Hook painted subjects in English history, and, occasionally, portraits. He married, in 1846, the third daughter of Mr. James Burton, solicitor; and, having obtained the three years' travelling pensionship in the gift of the Royal Academy, he went to Italy. Shortly afterwards, however, he gave up half his pension, and obtained leave from the Academy to return to England within half the time allotted to travelling students. On his return, he painted subjects from Italian history, and, in 1850, was made an Associate of the Royal Academy. Latterly he has, as we have said, devoted himself to pastoral and modern subjects.

It will be seen from the foregoing brief notice that Mr. Hook's life has been of the same peaceful equable kind, which, we are happy to say, characterises the career of the majority of our English painters. He has neither run away with an Austrian archduchess, fought in a duel with a captain of Zouaves, conspired to set up the red republic in place of the monarchy, nor set the Thames on fire. It is certain that he did not invent gunpowder, nor has he ever been accused of killing Cock Robin. What a contrast between the honest, placid, comfortable existence of our Knights of the Easel and Maul-stick, and the brawling, intriguing, splendid, and miserable lives of the old painters! Our R.A.'s, and associated societies of Suffolk Street and Pall Mall, no longer ride with plumed hats on their heads and rapiers at their side, with fifty gentlemen in their train. They no longer find patrons in

kings, emperors and popes to caress them, pick up their maulsticks, propose their elevation to the cardinalian dignity. They live at Kensington, frequent the printsellers', work hard for an income, and are called upon for the income tax; and the only commerce they have with aristocracy is once a year, when the Academicians give a species of West-end Lord Mayor's banquet among the sprucely varnished pictures; and when Prince Consorts deign to nod approval of everything, and Prime Ministers condescend to talk facetious nonsense, after having taken a little too much wine. You see, in Reubens' and Raphael's days, there existed not a certain great body called "The Public," who, in our times, have supplanted the patrons, and have, moreover, proved themselves more liberal if not more discerning than they. If we err not, Mr. Hook and his compere are much benefited by the change.

ENGLISH BLADES.—A cavalry officer, who has been much engaged in the late contests in India, informs us that the sword with which his outfitter supplied him all but cost him his life. "In making a thrust at a huge nigger the blade bent almost in two, and if one of my own men had not come to my aid I most certainly should have been finished." The sword had been proved—as all swords are—by the maker, and to very little purpose.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR INDIA.—Five thousand men of all ranks are under orders for India: for Calcutta, 2,930 men; for Bombay, 1,130 men; for Madras, 820 men; and for Kurrachee, 790 men. The reinforcements are all to embark between the 24th of June and the 2nd of July.



## PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

CAPRICIOUS spring with its alternations of rain and sunshine, heat and cold, has, till within the last week, prevented many a chrysalis of fashion from becoming a gay butterfly; and the *élégantes* of the Bois de Boulogne have not been busy in throwing aside their warm cloaks and cashmere shawls. But now June and its flowers have arrived, and the bonnets like the *parterres* are in full bloom.

The other day in one of the *allées* of the Bois, we observed a group of ladies, whose bonnets were perfect *chefs d'œuvre* of the milliner's art. One was characterised by a charming air of originality. The bonnet was composed of *paille-de-riz*, and across the upper part was a demi-fan of black silk, trimmed with white lace. The bavolet of rose colour was likewise trimmed with lace. The under trimming consisted of roses and black grapes, mingled with the *ruche* of tulle, and the strings were one black and the other rose colour.

The Russian Princess Ka—(one of the fair group here alluded to) wore a bonnet of *paille-de-riz* and white crape, disposed in alternate bands. The bavolet of crape was edged with *paille-de-riz*, and on one side there was a charming bouquet of mauve colour tulips, fastened by bows of narrow ribbon. The under trimming was a perfect *tour de force* of elegance. It consisted of a single tulip artistically embedded in the *ruche* of blonde.

A few words on equestrian costume may not be out of place. One of the most distinguished horsewomen in Paris appeared the other day in a habit of Indian cashmere of a bronze green hue. It had neither a basque nor a point at the waist, and the front was confined by a row of small buttons. The skirt was, perhaps, even more full than those of last year. The sleeves were rather wide at the ends, and sufficiently short to show the under sleeve. The turn-down collar partially displayed the throat; and the necktie of black satin was fastened in a bow in front. The hat was the long exploded *chapeau d'homme*, with the accompaniment of the old traditional green veil.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The lady with the parasol wears a dress of figured organdie, with two skirts, each finished with a broad hem, within which is run a green sarsenet ribbon. The corsage is high, fitting closely to the figure, and closing at the back. The sleeves have a small puff at the shoulder, and below it two deep frills finished with broad hems and runnings of ribbon. Ceinture of broad flowered ribbon with green edges. Collar and sleeves of worked muslin, ornamented with small bows of green ribbon. *Cache-peigne* of black lace, edged with green chenille fringe. Parasol of white moire antique, figured with green and edged with white guipure. Boots of brown satin.

The little girl's costume consists of a dress of blue and white chequered taffety, with side trimmings consisting of *francés* of plain blue silk; the drawings separated by rows of passementerie of a shade of blue deeper than that of the silk. Small cloak, of the bournoise form, of striped blue and white. Bonnet of sewed straw, trimmed with blue ribbon. Under trimming, daisies intermingled with the *ruche*.

The little boy wears a blouse of brown poplin, figured with horizontal stripes, ornamented up the front with black silk brandebourgs and buttons. The straw hat has a band of brown velvet, and on one side a black cock's plume. Collar, sleeves, and trousers of nansouk. Boots of brown cashmere.

The lady in dinner costume wears a dress of pearl grey silk, with seven flounces, figured at intervals with small quillets of white chenille, terminated by tassels. The round bertha has a bouilloné, edged by two narrow ruches, and finished by a frill, ornamented in the same manner as the flounces. The sleeves are demi-long, and have four narrow frills. Under sleeves of Alençon lace.

## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

WHATEVER be the faults of Mr. Lumley's management, it must be admitted that the performances at her Majesty's Theatre have at least the merit of variety. And while varying the old *répertoire* as much as possible, the director further endeavours to present to his audience every possible novelty, whether that novelty be the latest opera by Verdi, (there seems to be no other composer in the present day), the *prima donna* who has just been "the rage" at Berlin or Vienna, or the tenor who has made one of the most successful appearances on record at Milan. Jenny Lind, Wagner, Piccolomini, Titiens, and Giuglini, may be mentioned among the singers Mr. Lumley has introduced to the London public. We are quite aware that these vocalists are not to be classed together as equal, or nearly equal in merit; but of the two who must be placed in an inferior rank—or rather in inferior ranks, for *they*, again, are far from being equal—it may be said, on behalf of Mr. Lumley, that one of these, Mlle. Wagner, was preceded by a great reputation, which made every one anxious to hear her, and that the other, Mlle. Piccolomini, although unable to sing and full of bad taste as an actress, has, in spite of all that, achieved a decided success, and that the public like her.

This year the great novelty, and the great attraction, of her Majesty's Theatre to musical persons, has been the appearance of Mlle. Titiens, whose engagement has further enabled the management to produce the "Huguenots" with a Valentine, "Don Giovanni" with a Donna Anna, and the "Nozze di Figaro" with a Countess, such as have rarely been seen before on the operatic stage.

Mademoiselle Titiens' latest assumption has been that of the Countess Almaviva in the "Marriage of Figaro," which was produced at her Majesty's Theatre on Saturday last. The opera was played last year for the especial benefit, we believe, of Mademoiselle Piccolomini, who, it was thought, would make an excellent Susanna. Then Madame Spezia was the Countess, and Madame Ortolani, as now, the page. We are sorry to add that Signor Benevanto continues to play the part of the Count, though it is fair to add, that he is seen to less disadvantage therein than in the more important rôle of Don Giovanni in Mozart's sister opera.

The advocates of realism in its meanest and most literal form, will perhaps admire the acting and bearing of Mademoiselle Piccolomini as Susanna the servant. She is certainly not Beaumarchais' Susanna, who is half waiting-maid, half companion, like our old young friend Pamela, and who, like Richardson's heroine, is supposed to be a woman of some refinement. But she is unmistakably a domestic, and plays the part of the gentle Susan as a comic actress at the Adelphi would that of an ordinary chamber-maid in a farce. But this is not all. Mademoiselle Piccolomini actually succeeds in making nearly all the personages adopt the same common, ultra-comic tone in which she herself indulges, and the result is that the general character of the acting is that which belongs, not to high comedy, but mere farce. Signor Belletti as Figaro, sings admirably. His "Non piu andrai" is one of the first pieces of vocalization that can be heard, but it is not Signor Belletti's singing alone that renders his performance in this scene so excellent. His bearing, gestures, and the accent of each phrase, are all perfectly studied, and perfectly rendered. Nevertheless, in other portions of the opera, he allows himself to be reduced into the low comedy vein, and quite out-Piccolomini Piccolomini in the extravagance of his buffoonery. The worst of it, too, is that whereas Mademoiselle Piccolomini is always natural in her acting—objectionable as that acting in itself may be—Signor Belletti is never so unnatural as when he endeavours to be humorous, nor is there anything humorous in uttering "I-o" in apparent imitation of an asinine bray, nor in introducing English words into his part after the manner of the late Lablache, who was pardoned such little eccentricities in consideration of his real comic genius.

Fortunately for Mademoiselle Titiens, the ludicrous improprieties of Signor Belletti and Mademoiselle Piccolomini, have the effect of throwing her great dramatic qualities into wonderful relief. Entering immediately after some desperately comic scene between the servants, Mademoiselle Titiens exhibits a nobility of demeanour, which would perhaps be less striking if Figaro would only act a little more like Figaro, and Susanna a little more like Susanna. Still it is a pity she cannot appear with a somewhat better *entourage*. The Count is quite unworthy of her, and such ill-bred domestics as the Figaro and

Susanna of her Majesty's Theatre would certainly not be suffered to remain in her service for a moment. There is perhaps a want of lightness in Mademoiselle Titiens' acting which renders her less fitted for comedy than for tragedy, but she evinces so much high intelligence, so much taste and true feeling in every part she undertakes, that we feel unwilling to rank her Countess even below her own Donna Anna. It is surprising that an accomplished artist like Signor Belletti should take his tone from Mademoiselle Piccolomini rather than from Mademoiselle Titiens, who, compared to the other ladies at Her Majesty's Theatre (Alboni alone excepted), is a woman of quite a superior organisation.

Verdi's "Luisa Miller" (the libretto of which is founded on Schiller's "Love and Intrigue") is to be produced on Tuesday next, with Mademoiselle Piccolomini in the part of the heroine.

There is nothing that calls for particular notice at the Royal Italian Opera, where "La Traviata" has alternated with the "Huguenots" during the past week. In our next number we shall have to speak of the appearance of Signor Ronconi as the Duke in "Lucrezia Borgia." We believe the "Fra Diavolo" is to be given very shortly, and it is to be hoped that the management will not lose much time in producing "Martha." It is rumoured that Herr Formes has no immediate intention of returning to England from the United States, in which case there will be some difficulty about the great cast that has been devised for "Don Giovanni." Our readers are aware that Herr Formes takes a rational view of the part of Leporello, and that he pretends to behave, when the imps make their appearance to carry away Don Giovanni, precisely as a valet would behave under such circumstances in real life. The only difficulty about this view arises from the impossibility of such circumstances occurring at all. If Formes should, fortunately, be unable to make his appearance in England, why could not Ronconi take the part of Leporello? We should then see the only humorous Leporello who has appeared in England during these latter days, with the exception of Lablache?

The appearance of Signor Naudin, the tenor from whom so much is expected, did not take place at Drury Lane on the day originally appointed for his *début*. One of his best parts is said to be that of the Duke of Mantua in "Rigoletto"—which is in fact the character selected for his introduction to the English stage. Hitherto the great "attractions" at the Drury Lane Opera have been the *prime donne*. Accordingly, whenever Madame Salvini-Donatelli appears in the "Traviata," or Madame Gassier in the "Sonnambula," there is sure to be a full house.

The two great concerts of the past week have been that of Mr. Anderson at her Majesty's Theatre, and that of Mr. Gye and the directors of the Crystal Palace Company at the Crystal Palace. Unfortunately they both took place on the same day, and although each was well attended, it is certain they must have injured one another. At the Crystal Palace the concert-room is so ill arranged that it is impossible to hear satisfactorily in any part of it. As the sides are not shut in, and as there is no wood ceiling to act as a sounding-board, the effect of the music is almost like that of music in the open air, which appears to us to have no effect at all. The sound, instead of being compressed, expands to an indefinite extent, and seems to get diluted in the atmosphere through which it passes. This again has a counter effect on the vocalists, who, finding it impossible to make themselves duly heard, sometimes seem unwilling to take the trouble to sing at all (as, for instance, last season, when the "Stabat Mater" was given). Madam Bosio did not appear at the first concert. Perhaps the directors thought the unusually fine weather would somewhat compensate for her absence; but, with our changeable climate, we should not advise them to try the experiment a second time. Mario sang the air from "La Favorita." Grisi sang her first *scena* in the "Trovatore," and, as usual, spoiled the cabaletta by quickening the time where it was never intended it should be quickened. But it would be tedious to go through the programme, which contained nothing approaching to novelty. There was, however, a new appearance, that of Mademoiselle Parepa, a young lady who has a figure beyond her years, but who has, at the same time, a fresh, clear soprano voice, and an admirable method. She sang the air from "Ernani," and was much applauded. It will be remembered that Mademoiselle Parepa appeared at the Lyceum last season, in the "Puritani," but she only sang once. This year it is to be hoped we shall have an opportunity of hearing her oftener.

The concert at her Majesty's Theatre was better than that at the Crystal Palace in some respects. The *locale* is far superior, as to sonority, and none of the great singers of the company were absent. Titiens, Alboni, Giuglini, Belletti, were all there; and yet, tempted by the prospect of fine weather and fresh air, we confess we were not present, but went to Sydenham instead.

THE SHAH OF PERSIA AND THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—Our readers are aware that the Shah of Persia forwarded a donation to the Indian Relief Fund. We now learn that immediately after the remittance had been despatched, an article appeared in the "Teheran Gazette," expressive of regret that their English allies had been beaten everywhere by the insurgents in India. "We were latterly reduced to such extreme straits in matters of money, that we were begging from foreign nations any little sums we could raise, to enable us to pay the pensions of our widows. The Shah, however, in compassion, has given his mite in the way of charity." We do not vouch for the truth of this story, but there is something irresistibly ludicrous in the idea of Persia bestowing its charity upon Great Britain.

FRUIT OF THE PERSIAN WAR.—Indian journals inform us that the British Mission at Herat has been recalled by the Hon. Mr. Murray, and were to have left Herat by the 1st of March, returning to India by Bushire. The home government had decided upon giving up Herat to Persia, it appears, waiving the fulfilment of the terms of the treaty. Thus the war with Persia and the great expenditure of men and money have come to nought. The independence of Herat is what the British Government battled for.

A SHOCKING AFFAIR.—The Marchesa Castelluccio took her three children, of whom the eldest is scarcely eight, to the Fiorentini Theatre at Naples to see Alfieri's tragedy of "Orestes," and the performance made a great impression on them. The next day, to amuse themselves, the children imitated the last scene; and the eldest boy, taking a kitchen knife as a poniard, plunged it into his sister's throat, and inflicted so serious a wound that she died almost immediately. He then wounded his younger brother dangerously, and afterwards plunged the knife into his own breast near the heart, inflicting a very serious wound. At this moment, the mother entered, and her despair at finding one child dead, and the other two dangerously wounded, may be imagined.

ANOTHER NEW "DODGE."—A pretty little girl has been imposing upon the sensibilities of the benevolent public of Paris, by a new artifice. She would let a phial fall in the street, and then begin to weep, the broken glass lying at her feet. When questioned, she would say she had been sent to purchase some medicine for her father, who was dying; that she had accidentally broken the phial containing it; and that she wept because she knew that her mother, having pawned her last gown, was totally unable to buy any more. At length the imposition was discovered, and her mother, who had trained her in the part, was sent to prison for a month.

A RESPECTABLE REFERENCE.—Some time since a firm at Cork received from Manchester a letter demanding a list of prices of mineral paint, and subsequently a large order, with a reference to a third person, whose card was forwarded. On making inquiry through the Trade Protection Society, it was discovered that the referee lived in a stable, the only available property in which was an empty cigar box; and the party applying for the goods was found to be a gentleman who had been convicted of an attempt at burglary, and enjoyed the reputation of being an expert thief.

PIRACY AND MURDER.—The "Gallant," Captain More, from Shanghai, for Bangkok, was taken back to Woosung on the 30th March; the master, chief officer, and one seaman having been murdered by part of the crew, composed of Canton men, who made off with the treasure she had on board, valued at 12,000 *taels*. The affair took place in the night of the 29th of March, whilst the vessel was at anchor off Blockhouse Island, in the Yang Tze Kiang.

THE FINANCES OF LONDON.—According to a report on the revenues of the corporation of London, they have incurred prodigious liabilities. Within the last ten years they have expended upwards of £915,000 over and above their income; £550,000 having been expended in the Cannon Street improvements, £450,000 on the new market, and £270,000 in the Clerkenwell improvements, the entire returns from which do not now amount to upwards of £9,000 per year, including the ground rents and the tolls of old Smithfield Market.

## LAW AND CRIME.

THE readers of "Household Words" must have remarked, in last week's issue of that periodical, a curious article, entitled "White Washerton," pleasantly setting forth the ease with which, at one particular County Court, the penalties of extravagance and debt may be avoided under an appeal to the benefit of the Act for relief of insolvent debtors. The truth of the main facts of that article has unfortunately become matter of notoriety. It has become known, especially among fraudulent debtors, that at one particular court, within a convenient distance from London, yet beyond that charmed radius of twenty miles from the metropolis which leads to the recognised centre of Portugal Street, there exists a certain court, presided over by a judge of peculiar views. To his district especially resort low attorneys, who have received debts for their clients, and decline to pay the amounts received. Thither go fraudulent debtors of every grade, who ought to be open public bankrupts, but who can obtain friendly arrests at the enchanted city, and pass the Court without a single hint of the transaction being given in the "Gazette," beyond the name appended to a delusive address. Should a wretched creditor receive notice of his debtor's intended trick, hard is the fate of that creditor. He must give a notice of opposition, and in that notice the judge himself will be the first to endeavour to pick a hole. To prepare and serve such a notice, in an effectual way, would puzzle even an astute London lawyer. Then the creditor must oppose in person (in which case he will certainly fail, being opposed by counsel) or by counsel, which involves the mediation of an attorney, and inevitable expense. Then if he have not judgment and execution upon his debt, and if, moreover, a detainer be not lodged, his opposition if successful, will be fruitless. If he have lodged a detainer, the Judge, if the insolvent's case be so defective as to necessitate an adjournment, will discharge him forthwith, because a detainer is lodged. If a detainer be not lodged, and on account of open and transparent fraud the insolvent be remanded, his friend who arrested him, files a discharge, and forth flies the insolvent. But seldom is even the fraudulent debtor remanded from the Court of which we write. The Judge has morbid sympathies which unfit him for his position. We should not speak thus openly were not our ground tenable, and our position proveable. It is unnecessary for us to enlarge upon the fearful injury which such a state of things, notoriously existing, inflicts upon the honest trader, or upon the detriment to public honesty which it inevitably occasions. But it furnishes a subject by no means to be exhausted by a pleasant, humorous article in "Household Words."

The Court of Exchequer has decided that it is not actionable to call a man a "blackleg." There are certain terms of reproach which the law allows angry persons to use. Among these are epithets imputing dishonesty, without necessarily conveying the charge of an indictable offence. Among these are: "liar, swindler, rascal, scoundrel, villain," and to the category is now added "blackleg." We must remind our angry friends that even these must not be spoken of a man of business in his business. To say that a jeweller is a rascal in his business, would be actionable, if he could prove special damage therefrom. But to call a betting-tout, or sporting tradesman a "blackleg" is not actionable, because it is not an indictable offence to be a blackleg, and betting is, or ought to be, no man's business.

Two, at least, if not three, fighting ruffians have killed their opponents in fair fight during the last week. One has been committed to take his trial for manslaughter. There used to be an old toast—"May every lawyer kill a doctor, and be hanged for it;" and with a little permutation the text might be brought to bear upon the prize-fighters, with the hearty assent of the quiet portion of the community.

During the last week, the system of fines inflicted by metropolitan magistrates, has resulted in several most flagrant cases of defect of justice. Two fellows, without the slightest provocation, attacked a poor woman about to become a mother. One kicked her in the stomach, and brought her to the ground in agony. The other held the hands of her female companion while the first ruffian renewed his assault. For this a fine was inflicted. A ferocious female savage attacked the pretty daughter of a coffeehouse keeper, knocked her head against the wall, tore her clothes and hair, beat her cruelly, and was fined 20s. by Mr. Bingham. William Perry violently assaulted a collector, who only asked for toll, struck him thrice on the mouth, causing much loss of blood, and was fined 30s. by Mr. Yardley. Joseph Daniels was fined five pounds by Mr. Hammill for furiously assaulting with intent to rob on the highway a paralytic elderly gentleman. Thomas Eaton, a discharged militiaman, was charged at Bermondsey with inflicting a severe injury on a respectable tradesman, by kicking him in the abdomen, and was fined 40s. Can any enlightened person tell us what all this means? Are our magistrates, as in the old times, running a race for the collection of fines? Or are they incapable of perceiving the obvious tenor of the law, that while a blow struck upon provocation, and in the heat of passion, may be atoned for by a fine; that sheer inexcusable brutality, accompanied by an act of malice inflicting bodily anguish and permanent injury, is a crime of high degree? Have they already forgotten the "Aggravated Assaults Act," and the reasons which led the three estates of the realm to pass that necessary statute? If not, at what are they aiming—at the repression of brutality, or the continuance of the excitement aroused by well-authenticated tales of cruel outrage? If they are striving for the last-named result, they may anticipate success. Only a few days' since a poor labouring man was knocked down in Leather Lane, Holborn, and kicked while lying upon the ground by a gang of "roughs" with whom he had not exchanged a syllable, and whom he had never seen before. Turning, in his pain, he brought his face against that of a corpse of a harmless man like himself, who had been knocked down by the same gang and killed a minute before. And, by the way the fellows, when subsequently arrested, were dealt with by the lenient magistrate, we see no chance of their condign punishment. An old maxim runs:—*Judex culpatur, cum nocens absolvitur*—the Judge commits himself when he absolves the guilty. If our magistrates were to act upon this principle, they would be still more useful members of society than even at present. On the other hand, when a stalwart, spirited young gentleman (may be somewhat flushed after a jovial meeting) is exasperated by an over-officious policeman, and gives him a well-deserved blow on the nose, that young gentleman is imprisoned, at whatever cost of ruin to his worldly prospects, without the option of paying a fine.

The arrest of Mr. Washington Wilks will be found detailed in our parliamentary intelligence. Mr. W. Wilks does not appear by any means to have excited extraordinary sympathy. The alternative placed before him by the House is of a kind from which no journalist, however jealous of the rights of his order, need shrink—"Prove or retract your allegations." Mr. Wilks does neither, although the subject of those allegations (at least of those which Mr. Wilks still declines to withdraw) consists of circumstances occurring within the walls of the House, and easily proveable or refutable on the spot.

A WATERLOO BRIDGE MURDER.—The body of a female child, supposed to be about six years old, has been recovered from the Regent's Canal, dreadfully mutilated, and with all the appearance of having been burned after death to prevent identification. It was packed in a carpenter's basket, with a laundress's flat iron to sink it. There were also several rounds of wire about the body.

THE LATE GOLD DUST ROBBERY.—Everybody remembers that some Turkish bonds bought out of the proceeds of the great gold dust robbery, were ordered by the judges to be invested for the benefit of Fanny Kay and her child, for whom Agar had purchased them. The corporation of London claimed the property, under the Charter, as being entitled to take all felons' property within their jurisdiction, and the Court of Queen's Bench has ruled that the goods were forfeited, and that the judges had no power to make the order with reference to the Turkish bonds. That part of the order was rescinded, and the result is that Fanny Kay and her child will be deprived of the benefit of the money, which will be handed over to the sheriffs and under-sheriffs who were in office when the trial took place, they being entitled to the property of felons, through the Corporation, to pay as defraying the expenses of their offices.



## POLICE.

**"MY YORNO MAN."**—Elizabeth Bush, a servant, was placed at the bar before Alderman Cubitt, charged with taking her master of various articles to the value of £20.

It appeared that, in the absence of the family, the prisoner forced open some drawers, and abstracted the property, after which she opened a window in a part of the premises so as to induce a suspicion that a burglary had been committed. The trick was, however, seen through, and the prisoner then gave her master to understand that she had been led into the offence by a man, and she was accordingly several times released to find the man, but it appeared that she was a thief, and having pleaded guilty, she was committed to prison for three months with hard labour.

**Suppression of an Illegal Fair.**—John Miller, Geo. Reed, John Wright, Richard Saunders, James Winslow, and Joseph Trigwell, appeared before Mr. Corrie to answer summonses which charged them with causing a public nuisance and annoyance within the parish of Islington, by promoting and holding within the said parish a fair, contrary to the statute.

During the latter end of last week a number of carriages and travelling showmen pitched their tents in Britannia Fields, for the purpose of holding a fair, large stands having been previously issued announcing their intention. As the previous fairs held on the same spot have been a source of much annoyance to the inhabitants, owing to the congregation of a large number of noisy and low characters, the householders at once took immediate steps for the suppression of the nuisance.

Mr. Layton stated the above facts, and remarked that the proceedings were taken under a local act, which provided that any person who shall commit any public nuisance or annoyance whatsoever within the parish of Islington, shall be liable to a penalty of £5. The fair was a great nuisance, and not being a statutory fair ought to be at once suppressed.

The defendants said they had taken the ground from the sub-lessee, who had issued bills stating that a fair might be held, and they were not aware they were doing wrong. As far as they were concerned, they would go on with the fair.

Mr. Corrie said he would adjourn the summons, and if the fair was not suppressed he should most certainly commit the whole of the parties to the Central Criminal Court for trial.

On the following day, the parties summoned did not attend, and Mr. Langton, the vestry clerk, stated that the nuisance was still continued, and therefore he had to apply for warrants against the parties.

Mr. Corrie at once granted the warrants, and said that he should most certainly commit the whole of the parties to trial. As they seemed determined to set the law at defiance, they would now see which was the strongest. The fair was a great nuisance, and must be put a stop to.

**CHEAP MEAT, AND ITS RESULTS.**—John Wadley, a journeyman butcher, and John Springthorpe, cookshop keeper, of Museum Street, were brought before Mr. Corrie, the first charged with stealing a quantity of meat, the property of his employer, and the latter with receiving the same knowing it to be stolen.

Mr. Kent said for months past he had been constantly troubled to the extent of £15 a week on an average, and the balance at the bank was reduced to an alarming extent, by something like £500. He constantly missed meat, but was unable to tell how it went still he communicated with the police. A policeman was directed to enquire into the matter, and detected Wadley removing a large quantity of meat.

The officer stated that at about half-past four that morning he saw Wadley leave Mr. Kent's (his master's) shop with a tray full of meat, to the amount of about 10 lbs. He went to Springthorpe's shop and deposited it in the counter. Witness followed and apprehended him. He said he had left the meat at a customer's. After taking him up, witness apprehended Springthorpe, who he knew nothing about the meat.

Mr. Kent said that Springthorpe was not a customer. He had never seen him before.

Springthorpe said he knew nothing about it. He was unable, in answer to the magistrate, to name a butcher of whom he had bought meat within three months, though he used two or three joints daily. The prisoners were remanded.

**A BAD SHILLING'S WORTH.**—A very respectable-looking man, assisting to Mr. John Brazier, a pork-butcher, of 36, Parker's Row, Bermondsey, was charged with passing a shilling from his master's till.

The prisoner pleaded guilty, and stated that it was his first offence.

Mr. Corrie sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

**CAUTION TO CABMEN AT RAILWAY STATIONS.**—Charles Davis, cab driver, was charged with trespassing on the line of the South-Eastern Railway Terminus, London Bridge, and refusing to quit when desired.

Defendant said he thought he had as much right there as any person, and the only reason he was ordered off was because he would not treat the officers and pay them money.

Mr. Corrie told him he knew that to be false; and as caution to him and other cabmen, he should fine him £5, or seven days.

Fine paid.

**BRANDY FOR THE CHILDREN.**—George Maynard, a seaman in the service of the General Steam Navigation Company, was brought before the Lord Mayor, charged with smuggling. On the 4th ult. a Custom-house officer found a quantity of brandy secreted in the hold of the defendant, on board the Trident steamer, had been overhauled just previously, when the brandy was not there, and he was confident no one had access to the berth except the defendant. The value of the brandy amounted to 10s.

The defendant admitted the brandy belonged to him. He had a wife and six children, and thought it might be of service to them.

The Lord Mayor thought the brandy was more for him than his children. He ordered him to pay a penalty of 10s., or be imprisoned for fourteen days.

**REASONS FOR KICKING MR. EASTON.**—Mr. Henry Easton, the landlord of the Prince of Wales public-house, Finsbury Place, Wandsworth Road, appeared before Mr. Corrie to answer to a summons for assault taken out against him by Mr. John Easton, a builder, in extensive business in the Clapham Road.

A barrister and solicitor attended on behalf of the complainant, and from the statement of the former it appeared that his client had been most roughly and impudently treated at the Prince of Wales.

The complainant said that, on the night of Monday last, he went to the Prince of Wales to meet his uncle, after spending some hours in the skittle-ground, he passed the parlour, and was instantly "bounced."

While his hat was over his eyes, he was most roughly pulled and kicked out of the place. He then appealed to the landlord, the defendant, for protection; but he refused it, and complainant was flung out of the house.

Then he appealed to a policeman, who came up at the summons, and was told that his best course was to apply for a summons. The complainant produced his hat, which was in a battered state, and also his coat, which was damaged, and said they were a specimen of the manner in which he had been treated by defendant and his customers.

The only witness called by the complainant was Police-

contable 49 V, and his evidence did him much more injury than service, as the officer admitted that complainant was decidedly drunk.

Mr. Smith said that complainant obtained himself into his parlour, where a wedding party were enjoying themselves, and having acted most freely and rudely towards one of the females of the party, who was a perfect stranger to him, he got, as he no doubt deserved, roughly treated by her friends. The first that he (Mr. Smith) heard of him was, on being sent for by Mrs. Smith, when, on going to his private bar-parlour, he there found Mr. Easton seated in his easy chair. Defendant requested he would leave his private apartment, saying he did not allow strangers to enter his private room; but he refused to leave, and, not knowing anything about him, he certainly did remove him from his bar. With respect to the complainant's appeal to him for protection, there was not the slightest necessity for it, as there was not a single individual interfering with him.

Five respectable witnesses corroborated much of the statement of Mr. Smith, and said they saw the complainant first at the counter, and then at the bar of Mr. Smith, crying, and heard him say he should not leave the house until he got his "hat and his coat replenished." They declared that no unnecessary violence had been used to remove the complainant from the parlour of the defendant, and that no attack had been made on him after he had been bounced in and turned out of the parlour.

Mr. Elliot remarked that there could be but little doubt that the injuries done to his hat and clothes had been brought on by the complainant himself, and as his statement was not only unsupported, but in a great measure contradicted, the summons must be discharged.

**CAUTION TO PUBLICANS.**—The landlord of the Valiant Trooper, York Street, Blackfriars Road, was summoned before Mr. Corrie, by direction of the Commissioners of Police, for unlawfully and knowingly permitting gambling in his house.

Sergeant Macnir, 11 M, said he was going round his section on the east side of Blackfriars Road, at eleven o'clock on the night of the 26th ultimo, and on passing the defendant's house in York Street, he was induced to enter, when he saw two men playing cards. They had been before them, and as soon as he entered they left off.

Defendant's attorney contended that the parties were not playing for gain, consequently it could not be gambling under the meaning of the Act of Parliament.

Mr. Corrie suggested that they might be playing for beer, and that would be gambling. It was a very close point, therefore he should not fine the defendant that time, but he must pay the costs, and that would act as a caution. He also recommended the discontinuance of card-playing for the future.

The attorney said his client was a respectable tradesman, and wished to obey the law.

**A COURAGEOUS BARMAID.**—A young man was placed at the bar, before Mr. Arnold, for final examination, charged as follows:—

Susan Ling, barmaid at the Pine Apple, Westbourne Street, Pimlico, went up to a bed-room in the house in question, and being unable to get in, and receiving no reply to her request for admission, she had suspicion as to the occupant of the apartment, and stopped outside the door, and in a minute the prisoner opened the door, and seeing the prosecutrix standing outside, banged it to, and locked it. She immediately ran to an adjoining window, and observing him passing along the leads, endeavoured to stoop him, but did not succeed, and he dropped down into the street. The young woman called out "Stop thief," and he was pursued by a tradesman in the neighbourhood, and the potman of the Pine Apple, who captured him, when he said that he had taken something from the house, because they would not give him what they owed him. He was then turned over to the police, to whom he told a most improbable story. On his being searched, various housebreaking implements, were found on him.

The defence set up was, that he thought the room was a baggage-room in the house in question, where he had called for some refreshment, and going up and finding his mistake, he had hidden himself in the room. He could not satisfactorily account for the possession of the implements found upon him, and

Mr. Arnold sentenced him to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

**A RATIONAL SETTLEMENT OF A "DIFFICULTY."**—Mr. Broughton received a letter worded thus:—"Sir—Having settled a dispute between two friends by fining one of them 2s. 6d., I beg respectfully to forward the same to you for the paper-box. An acknowledgement will oblige, yours respectfully, J.C."

He had done it 11 prem.

**DESTROYING PARK PROPERTY.**—Edward Franklin, twenty-three, Edward Cotter, sixteen, and William Thompson, sixteen, respectively-dressed young men, were charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with wilfully destroying trees in Victoria Park.

Three officers of the park entered the court with a quantity of May and several boughs of trees. They severally deposed to having seen the prisoners at eight o'clock in the morning with the property in their possession—Franklin being in possession of the May, and the others the boughs, with which they were leaving the grounds by a side gate, when stopped and questioned as to where they had obtained it. The officers, not being satisfied with the account given, detained them, and a search among the shrubberies showed that several of the trees were quite destroyed, by the ruthless manner in which they had been treated. The prisoners were then taken into custody.

Mr. D'Eyncourt examined the property, and remarked that it appeared to be cut from valuable trees.

The keeper said such was the fact. The greatest caution was continually exercised to prevent this long-continued practice, but still it was impossible to put an end to it, for whenever shrubs could be got at stealthily, they were pretty certain to be denuded of their beauties.

In answer to the charge the prisoners simply declared that they did not know that they were acting unlawfully until taken into custody, but

Mr. D'Eyncourt could not credit such an assertion, and, with a very proper reprimand, fined them as under: by way of example:—Cotter and Thompson, 20s. each, and 7s. 6d. damage; Franklin, 10s., and 1s. damage; or, in default, fourteen and seven days' imprisonment.

The amounts were paid.

**MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.**

Owing to the continued depression in the value of all French securities, the feverish state of the Paris Bourse, and to the announcement of a new Brazilian loan for £1,500,000, the market for home securities has shown firmness of late; nevertheless, a fair average business has been transacted in it for money since we last wrote. The Unfunded Debt has rapidly fallen, in consequence of the reduction of interest on the next issue.

The French Funds are now 28 per cent. lower than English Consols, and the efforts making on the part of the Government to compel the sale of the income of the charitable institutions in France for the purpose of investing the whole of the proceeds in rentes, have given rise to unpleasant feelings in more than one quarter.

As regards the Brazilian loan, we may observe that the subscription lists amounted to nearly £10,000,000 sterling. The scrip has been done at 11 prem.

There has been scarcely any change in the state of the money market. The supply of surplus capital on offer is it is very large, and the best short paper is done 21 to 24 per cent.

The imports of the precious metals, this week, have been under £300,000, partly from Russia. A few parcels of gold have been taken for the Continent; but the supply now in the Bank of England is £18,000,000.

The Continental exchanges are rather unfavourable; but those at hand from India, China, and the United States are rather satisfactory.

The 3 per Cent. Consols, for money, have realised 97½; the

Reduced, 96½; the New 3 per Consols, 96½; the New 2½ per Cent. 81; Eschquerre Bull, 15s. to 3s.; and India Loan Debentures, 99½. Bank stock has sold at 219; India ditto, 221 and 223, and India scrip, 90.

The dealings in the foreign market have been only to a moderate extent. Compared with last week, we have very few changes to notice in the quotations.

Nearly all railway shares have continued flat, and prices have shown a tendency to give way. The "calls" for the present moment are heavy, viz., £1,355,375—making a total called up for the first 18 months of the present year to £2,354,145. Mining and miscellaneous shares have ruled about stationary.

## METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

**CORN EXCHANGE.**—About an average time of year supply of English wheat has been received up to our market this week, and the demand has been very large. For all kinds, the demand has been heavy, and prices have given way 1s. per quarter in foreign wheat—the imports of which have increased to some extent—very little has been doing at 1s. per quarter less money. The sale for barley has been somewhat limited, at about last week's currency. Fine ware malt has supported former terms; but inferior parcels have gone lower. Oats have sold on a fair extent, yet prices have given way 6d. to 1s. per quarter. In the value of beans, peas, and flour, we have no change to notice.

**ENGLISH CURRENCY.**—Wheat, Essex and Kent, Red, 3s. to 4s.; ditto, White, 4s. to 5s.; Norfolk and Lincoln, Red, 3s. to 4s.; Rye, 2s. to 3s.; Grinding Barley, 2s. to 3s.; Distilling, 3s. to 4s.; Malt, 3s. to 4s.; Malt, 3s. to 4s.; Feed Oats, 2s. to 3s.; Potatoes, 2s. to 3s.; Tick Beans, 3s. to 4s.; Gray Peas, 4s. to 5s.; Broad Beans, 4s. to 5s.; Boilers, 4s. to 5s. per quarter. "Town-made Flour, 3s. to 4s.; Town Households, 3s. to 4s.; Country Marks, 3s. to 4s. per 28 lbs.

**CATTLE.**—The supplies of each kind of stock on offer this week have been moderately good. Generally speaking, the trade has ruled steady, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per 10 lbs., to sink the offal.

**NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL.**—The supplies of meat have fallen off, and the trade generally has been steady, at very full prices. Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; lamb, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per 10 lbs., by the carcass.

**TEA.**—Our market has become very inactive, and common sound Congou may be purchased at 9d. to 10d. per lb. The show of samples is only moderate.

**GOODS.**—Good and fine raw qualities have mostly sold on former terms; but other kinds have fallen in value 6d. to 1s. per cwt. Refined sugars are in moderate request. Brown lump, 5s. to 5s. 6d.; wet lump, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; and pieces, 4s. to 5s. per cwt.

**COFFEES.**—The demand is very inactive, at last week's prices. Coffee—Plantation kinds are selling to a moderate extent, at full quotations. Other qualities move off slowly, at barely late rates.

**COCA.**—Common Granada is selling at 52s.; and Bahia, 54s. per cwt.

**RICE.**—Owing to the immense stock—88,000 tons—our market is very flat, and prices are with difficulty supported. Pinky Madras, 6s. to 7s. per cwt.

**PROVISIONS.**—The value of butter is somewhat irregular. Bacon, hams, and lard support last week's currency.

**COTTON.**—Our market is firm as to price; but the transactions in it are only moderate.

**HEMP AND FLAX.**—Hemp continues to move off slowly, on former terms. Flax, so little is doing, that the quotations are almost nominal.

**WOOL.**—The Colonial wool sales have closed steadily, at a slight advance in the quotations, compared with the opening. Privately, the market is firm.

**SKINS.**—There is a good demand for run, at full quotations. Proof Leewards, 1s. 11d.; and proof East India, 1s. 10d. per gallon. Brandy and grain spirits are unaltered.

**METALS.**—The changes in prices this week have been comparatively limited; but the market generally is very inactive.

**SILVER.**—The trade is slow, and prices are well supported.

**SALT.**—Nearly all kinds move off steadily, at extreme rates.

**HOPS.**—Good and fine samples are steady, at full quotations; but all other kinds rule very inactive. The best hops are quoted at 42s. to 42½ per cwt.

**POTATOES.**—Selected qualities are scarce, and worth 160s. to 190s. per ton. Inferior samples rule heavy.

**OILS.**—Lined oil is in moderate request, at 32s. 9d. per cwt. on the spot. Pale rape is worth 47s. 6d.; and brown, 44s. Palm is steady, at 28s. to 30s. 6d.; and coconut, 36s. to 40s. 6d. The transactions in Turpentine are at a fair average extent, at 46s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. per cwt. for spirits.

**TALLOW.**—Our market has become flat, and prices are a shade lower. Pure tallow is 33s. per cwt. The stock is 10,563 cwt., valued at 350,000 in 1857.

**COALS.**—Turfed Moor Bates, 12s. 3d.; Walker's Primrose, 12s.; Wyllam, 14s.; Braddell's Hetton, 15s. 9d.; Haaswell, 17s. 6d.; Hetton Lyons, 18s. 6d.; Tees, 17s.; Thorpe, 16s. per ton.

## LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MAY 28.

**BANKRUPT.**—HENRY SHUTT, Union Place, Vassal Road, Brixton, bottle beer merchant—WILLIAM HENRY BARNES, Hawthorn Street, Ball's Pond, and Spencer Terrace, Stoke Newington, builder—RICHARD AUGUSTUS HOLME, Judd Street, New Road, Chapel Street, Rother's Town, and Sidmouth Street, Gray's Inn, Alder, George's Palace, Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park, lodging-house keeper—WILLIAM CARPENTER, Park Lane, Penet, Station, forshire, baker—CHARLES HAWLEY, Tipton, Staffordshire, grocer—BENJAMIN FREEMAN, Bristol, haulier—WILLIAM BALDWIN, Bristol, hop merchant—JOHN HENNINGTON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, mathematical instrument maker—MARBLE EASTWOOD, Manchester, fruit dealer—CHRISTOPHER A. JAMES, Morden, Lancashire, cotton spinner—DANIEL THOMAS, Carnarvon, draper—THOMAS CHAFFER, Liverpool, stone merchant.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—JOHN GORDON, Muirton, near Muirloch, Ross shire, farmer—JAMES LITTLE, jun., Edinburgh, tobacconist—WILLIAM BROWNE, Craignuck, near Motherwell, Lanarkshire, grocer.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1.

**BANKRUPT.**—THOMAS BULL, Hambledon, Hampshire, grocer—THOMAS FLYNN, Farningham Street, City, cheesemonger—WILLIAM COTTON, Bear Street, Leicester Square, beer retailer—JAMES WAT, Oxford Street, and Edgeware Road, grocer—THOMAS THORNTON, Leicester, coal merchant—BENJAMIN BERRISFORD, Leicester, stone merchant—JOHN A. BROWN, Aberdeen, Glamorganshire, beerhouse keeper—THOMAS ROBINSON, jun., Sheffield, watchmaker—GEORGE CHRETHAM BAXLEY and JAMES BAXLEY, Stratbridge, Cheshire, cotton spinners—EDWARD MARTIN, Manchester, instant merchant.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—DAVID KAY, Kilmarlock, Ayrshire, writer—ANDREW SPENCE, jun., Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, ship owner.

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**THE QUEEN.** Her Royal Highness the Princess Consort, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, will take place at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, on Monday, June 21st, at 8 o'clock, for the benefit of the Royal Infirmary, and the Royal Dispensary, and the principal Libraries and Music Warehouses.

**MR. CHARLES DICKENS will READ his "CHRISTMAS CAROL"** on Wednesday Afternoon, June 9th, at Three o'clock; and the story of "LITTLE DOMBEY" on Thursday Evening, June 10th, at Eight o'clock, at ST. MARK'S HALL, 11, Abchurch Lane, London. Tickets, 2s. 6d. and 1s. 6d. State numbered and reserved, 5s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. respectively. Unreserved Seats, 1s. Tickets to be had at Messrs. Chapman and Hall's, Publishers, 193, Piccadilly; and at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre.

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